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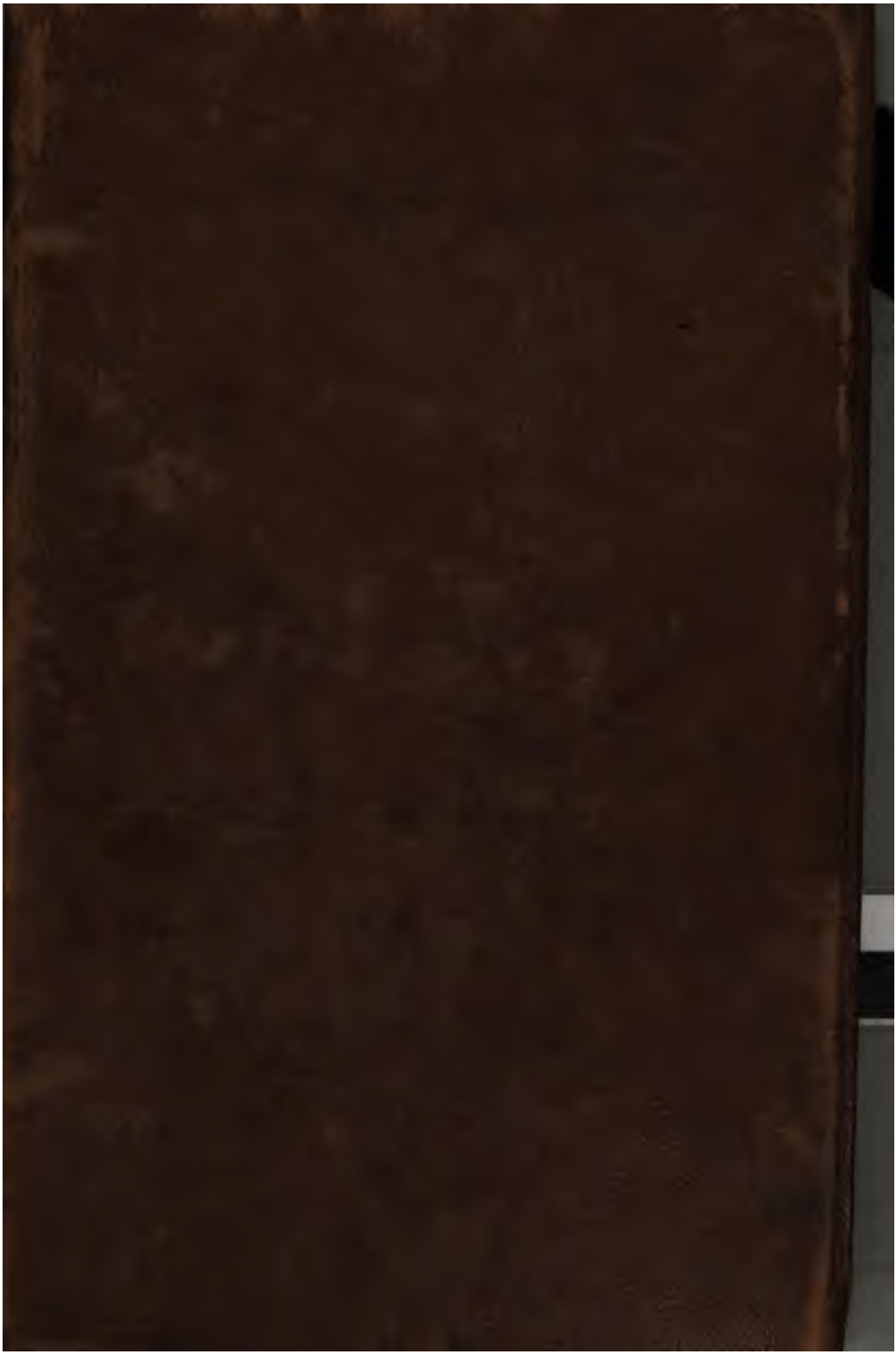

William Ward
Farringdon
1796

A

JOURNAL

OF THE

BLOCKADE AND SIEGE

OF

GIBRALTAR.

FROM THE

TWELFTH OF *SEPTEMBER*, 1779,

TO THE

TENTH OF *MARCH* 1783.

CONTAINING

A MINUTE DETAIL OF THE MEMORABLE AND INTERESTING TRANSACTIONS, NAVAL AND MILITARY OBSERVATIONS;

INTERSPERSED WITH

HISTORICAL ACCOUNTS OF THE GARRISON,

GENUINE AND ENTERTAINING

ANECDOTES, *&c. &c.*

BY SAMUEL ANCELL,

SERJEANT AND CLERK TO THE 58TH REGIMENT.

WRITTEN IN THE GARRISON.

THE FOURTH EDITION.

Cork:

PRINTED FOR THE AUTHOR BY A. EDWARDS,

AND

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1793.

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Earl of Weſtmorland,

LORD LIEUTENANT GENERAL,

AND

GENERAL GOVERNOR OF *IRELAND*;

GRAND MASTER

OF THE

ORDER OF St. PATRICK.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY,

THE following Sheets, containing the Events of the late memorable SIEGE of GIBRALTAR, written by a SOLDIER, during the continuance of the *Blockade* and *Bombardment*, in the intervals of reſt from Public Duty, are,

With the moſt profound Reſpect,

INSCRIBED BY

Your EXCELLENCY's

Moſt obedient humble Servant,

KILKENNY,
12*th Feb.* 1793.

Samuel Ancell,

SERJEANT, 58TH REGT.

TO THE READER.

THE great indulgence the following Letters have experienced from a generous Public, demand the AUTHOR's moſt warm and grateful Acknowledgments; who feels himſelf happy in having the opportunity to THANK the numerous patronizers of his Labours.

IT were needleſs to offer an Apology, after the candid reception the Work has been favoured with; yet, as many will peruſe this Edition, who had not the opportunity of inſpecting the former, it is neceſſary to mention, that at the Time of inditing they were not intended for the Preſs, nor would they have been preſented to the Public, but from repeated ſolicitation.—Importunity prevailed.—The recital of the various Occurrences, and momentous Events, as they were *written* and *felt* amidſt all the rage of War, Hurry, and Confuſion, made their firſt appearance at *Liverpool* in

in 1784, and experienced a ſucceſsful and rapid Sale, notwithſtanding their want of that elegance of Diction, which works of *labour* and *ſtudy* are embelliſhed with.

THIS teſtimony of PUBLIC APPROBATION has induced the AUTHOR (the firſt Writer, and who has not borrowed or copied from other Publications) to continue them in their *Original Stile*, and to ſubmit this Edition to the CANDOUR of his Readers; who, it is hoped, will overlook any *inaccuracies* they may meet with, eſpecially when they conſider, that a Soldier's buſineſs is DISCIPLINE, and not LITERARY FAME.

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AN

AUTHENTIC JOURNAL

OF THE

BLOCKADE and SIEGE

OF

GIBRALTAR.

LETTER I.

Gibraltar. 1779

DEAR BROTHER,

I SHOULD think myſelf wanting in affection and gratitude did I not favour you with the particulars of evey thing deſerving notice, during the approaching ſiege; but from the duty

1779 Sept. duty of a ſoldier, (being moſtly under arms, or with working parties,) many matters of a trifling nature, probably may eſcape my knowledge; do not therefore expect this Journal to be elaborately filled with trivial daily occurrences, but depend upon receiving a full account of every tranſaction of a public nature; ſuch as the enemy's motions, firings, veſſels engaged, taken, eſcaped, ſailed, arrived, batteries erected, deſtroyed, &c. &c.

12th. A council of war being held yeſterday at the *Convent*, at which the field officers and naval commanders aſſiſted, it was reſolved unanimouſly to commence a cannonade on the *Spaniſh* works; and accordingly this morning, (having previouſly withdrawn our advanced guards from *Bay Side*, and *Forbes*'s) we opened our batteries on the enemy, beginning at *Rock Gun*, down to the *Mole Head*, employing every piece of ordnance that could poſſibly bear upon them. An officer's lady,* whom curioſity had excited to our batteries, was encouraged to diſcharge the firſt gun; and having taken a lighted match, (with an intrepidity not peculiar to the ſex) *General Eliott* pronounced, in a true heroic ſtile, "Britons ſtrike home," and immediately every battery and angle bellowed with rage, and vomited forth the moſt tremendous flames.

At the firſt diſcharge our ſhot dropped ſhort, ſo that their advanced guards had time to eſcape to their lines, and their precipitate retreat almoſt

* The Lady of Lieut. Skinner, Engineer.

almoſt occaſioned a general laugh, to view the *Dons* tumbling one over another as they fled from the ſhowers of ſhot. When the enemy had reached their lines, we gave more elevation to our guns, and *Fort Barbara* and *St. Philippe* received a heavy cannonade, nor were any part of the *Spaniſh* lines neglected. As I came up the ſtreet about two hours after, from *Waterport*, (having been the preceding day and night on duty at that poſt) I could not but remark the timidity and fearful apprehenſion pictured on the countenance of the inhabitants, as they minutely expected a furious return from the enemy. The *Jews* and *Jeweſſes* exhibited the moſt deſcriptive amazement; terror had taken ſuch poſſeſſion of their minds, that they ſought ſhelter at the ſouthward, leaving their houſes and effects, (except ſuch as were of convenient carriage) expoſed to the dangers that muſt have enſued, had the enemy opened upon the town. About four in the afternoon we began to throw ſhells * into their forts, and the enemy, who had ſecured ſome indifferent retreat from our ſhot, now found themſelves moſt inconveniently annoyed, as we often perceived that their guards and parties were thrown into diſorder. 1779 Sept.

A heavy and inceſſant fire all night. The enemy appear to be in motion; and our expectations lead us to imagine, that, about noon they 13th.

* A round piece of caſt iron, ſome of 8 and a half, 10 and 23 inches diameter, hollow in the inſide, by which they are charged, and a fuze drove in at the mouth, of different lengths, according to the diſtance the ſhell is intended to be diſcharged. When the fuze burns to the powder, the ſhell immediately burſts with great fury.

1779 Sept. 13th. they will return the compliment. The fearful inhabitants, who ſheltered at the ſouthward, cannot be perſuaded to return, but ſeem happy in their minds, that they are out of the reach of the foe. It was obſerved to-day that their fortshave received ſome damage from our firings.

The enemy have not made a return. The uneaſineſs of the people ſeem leſs predominant, and ſome have ventured to return to their habitations in town. The foe are very buſy; they are encamped at the foot of *Santa Roque*, to a great number, with ſome ſquadrons of horſe; they appear to be about 16,000 men, including the *Catalan* troops; they are beginning to carry faſcines * and gabions † to their lines, ſo that it is beyond diſpute they mean to return the fire. When we firſt received the account, (June 21ſt) from Gen. *Mendoza*, commandant at *Santa Roque*, of the commencement of hoſtilities between their Catholic and Britannic majeſties, it occaſioned a general rumour in the garriſon; the Governor and principal officers aſſembled on the *Grand-Parade*, and every tongue was employed in delivering their opinions. Our advanced guards and lines were reinforced, and detachments of the piquets ſent to the weakeſt places, as we concluded that the enemy would endeavour to ſurpriſe the place.

Hoſtilities

* Wood cut from trees, and bound in bundles, or hoop ſticks well ſoaked in water.

† Pieces of timber, bound with iron hoops, like a caſk, and the incloſed part, when placed on a battery, is filled with earth.

Hoſtilities being thus commenced, General *Eliott*, with the advice of the naval commander, iſſued letters of marque to ſeveral privateers in this Port, who immediately went out and captured ſome ſmall prizes with wine, brandy, and other neceſſaries, that probably may be much wanted. On the 26th of July, Admiral *Don Barcello*, with two line of battle ſhips, two frigates, one xebec, and ſeveral gallies, anchored off *Cabritta Point*, to keep the Port blockaded. Our cruizers were under the neceſſity of returning to the bay, and are now laid up, as the enemy are ever watchful of their motions, and our force is too weak to offer an oppoſition. It is currently reported that *Spain*'s intention is to oblige us to ſurrender by famine; you may therefore conclude, that while the enemy remain maſters of the Straits, our ſituation will be exceedingly diſagreeable, and we ſhall be greatly neceſſitated for refreſhment. 1779 Sept.

Our Governor is indefatigable in improving the works, particularly thoſe on the heights of the hill, which are moſt convenient to annoy the enemy, and prevent their approaches.

The enemy are very aſſiduous; many working parties employed, but we cannot form any judgment of what they are doing. This day a ſettee,* that ſeemly ſtood for the bay, (wind Weſt) was conducted by Admiral *Barcello*'s cruizers to *Algaziras*:——This circumſtance makes us rather uneaſy, as we are apprehenſive that many more will ſhare the ſame fate. This day a ſerjeant and a Ha- 20th.

* A Market Boat.

1779 noverian private, deſerted, notwithſtanding
Sept. our ſhot they eſcaped to the Spaniſh lines.
30th. The enemy are quiet, but continue a ſharp look out in the Gut. This day Admiral *Barcello*'s ſhip was dreſſed with a variety of colours, and a ſalvo fired. He rides moſt magnificently, exulting over a people ſhut up like poultry in a coop. He is ſo vain, and ſo prepoſſeſſed with the proſpect of our capitulating, that he has ordered each officer under his command, to wear the key of the Straits, with a ribbon pendent from the breaſt. We may expect the next month will furniſh more important intelligence. Whatever happens (if I ſurvive) you may depend upon receiving a minute and circumſtantial account, from

Your's affectionately,

LETTER II.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

1779 FAR diſtant from every endearing friend,
Oct. 9. and the ſocial joys of fellowſhip, I again take my pen to write to you. Nothing material has happened ſince my laſt. The enemy are exceedingly aſſiduous at work, and we are conſtantly playing upon their parties with cannon. Admiral *Barcello*, with the ſtricteſt vigilance, watches the Gut, and ſome of his cruizers are moſtly ſtretching from *Ceuta* to *Cabritta Point*, to guard the Offing. We have not received any ſupplies or intelligence, nor have

have we obſerved a ſhip, boat, or ſettee, from East to West, endeavour to make the Port. Every thing is getting to ſo exorbitant a price, that it is almoſt impoſſible for a perſon of a moderate income to purchaſe what is requiſite for ſuſtenance. 1779 Oct. 9.

This day, a twenty-four pounder was dragged up the face of the Rock to *Midſhipman's look-out*, or *Rock-Gun*; the labour and danger attending it is not to be conceived, in the conveyance over the rugged Rock, to a height of 1357 feet.

The Enemy's Force now conſiſts of

AT ALGAZIRAS,

	guns.	*men.*		*guns.*	*men.*
1 ſhip	70	700	1 xebec	32	250
1 frigate	36	300	1 ditto	28	200

AT CEUTA,

1 ſhip	60	600	1 xebec	20	180
1 frigate	26	250	1 ditto	14	80
1 xebec	18	200			

CONSTANTLY CRUIZING,

1 xebec	16	100	6 quarter galleys	450
4 ſmaller		240	20 armed boats	300
6 half-galleys		1000		

ON OUR SIDE ARE AT ANCHOR,

Panthor	60	400	Gibraltar	12	40
Enterprize	28	200	Fortune	10	30
Childers	14	90			

1779 Oct. 20th. Laſt night the enemy were exceſſively hard at work, our batteries poured upon them a liberal diſtribution of ſhells, notwithſtanding which, they completed their operations, and this morning exhibited to our view three new batteries, two of fourteen, and one of ſeven guns, conſtructed for playing upon our lines at *Lamport* and *Waterport*.

30th. No proſpect of relief. We begin to think *Britain* has forgot that ſuch people are in exiſtence. The enemy are quiet, but exceeding watchful, and labour much at their approaches. We cannot form any judgment of what they are doing. Our batteries continue the cannonade.

This day the Peace and Plenty privateer, being chaſed to the eaſtward by a frigate and two row gallies, wind at S. E. was unfortunately driven aſhore between the *Devil's Tower* and *Fort Barbara*. Our batteries commenced a briſk cannonade on the Fort, and diſmounted ſeveral of their guns, but notwithſtanding, the enemy poured into her a prodigious quantity of round and grape ſhot. The boatſwain had his right thigh ſhot off, and died ſoon after. The captain finding it impoſſible to get her off the bed of ſand where ſhe had run aground, and grape ſhot pouring in a continual ſhower from the enemy's batteries, he and the crew (having taken out a few things) abandoned her, and came in at *Landport*. She was detached by General *Murray*, from *Minorca*, to view our ſituation, and to learn if any ſupplies were come from *England*. She had taken ſeveral prizes to the eaſtward, and relates

relates that the troops at *Minorca* are in good health, and want nothing but clothing. 1779 Oct.

Fort Barbara kept all night a fire upon the unfortunate privateer, her hull and rigging is ſo greatly ſhattered, that ſhe will never be fit for ſea again. The enemy ſeem to be making preparations for a vigorous attack; they have begun forming ſeveral bomb batteries. Our fire is without intermiſſion. Several of our howitzer * ſhells fell among their working parties, and killed a great number. General *Eliott* continues to increaſe the fortifications; and working parties from each regiment in the garriſon, are employed in erecting traverſes † in different parts of the ſtreets to ſhelter the troops and inhabitants from the enemy's ſhot. We have not received any ſupplies either from *England*, *Portugal*, *Tangier*, *Tetuan*, or *Minorca*, nor has a ſhip appeared ſtanding for the Bay but the Peace and Plenty. The Spaniſh cruizers keep hovering in the Offing. We wait the arrival of a fleet with impatience. 31ſt.

Yours &c.

* A piece of ordnance mounted on a carriage like a cannon, which diſcharges ſhells in any direction.

† Caſks filled with earth, placed three deep, and at ſufficient height to cover the head.

LETTER III.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

1779 Nov. 1. THE enemy laſt night fired a carcaſs‡ into the privateer which run aground the 30th ult. and in a few hours ſhe was conſumed. The enemy continue to work, and we continue to fire. Proviſion is getting extravagantly dear and ſcarce: fiſh and flour are the chief ſupport of the inhabitants. A ſmall ſtring of fiſh, about the ſize of a large ſprat, eight in number, coſt upwards of two ſhillings Engliſh.

This day the bakers ſhut their doors, and delivered their bread through a wicket, protected by a guard, as the crowds were ſo preſſing, they were under the apprehenſion of their houſes being pulled down; the flour they have in hand will not laſt, according to computation, more than two months. *Antonio Smilie* (a noted *Genoeſe* baker) aſſured me, he had only eighteen barrels of flour to ſerve himſelf, family, and the public. The Governor has ordered them to bake but a ſtipulated quantity daily, which is not half the ſupply required by the garriſon.

It is really grievous to ſee the fighting of the people for a morſel of bread, at a price not to be credited by thoſe who never knew the hardſhip of a ſiege. Men wreſtling, women intreating,

‡ An iron caſe with four holes in it, to let out the flames, about the ſize of a bomb ſhell, charged with combuſtibles for ſetting houſes and ſhips on fire, diſcharged out of mortars.

intreating, and children crying; a jargon of all languages piteouſly pouring forth their complaints. The tear of ſenſibility is copiouſly ſhed, and commiſeration mutually exchanged. What a ſituation! where humanity is deprived of the ability to alleviate the innumerable wants of old and young. When our diſtreſſes will end, time alone can unfold. 1779 Nov.

Many of the women and children returned from the baker's this morning, without being able to procure the ſmalleſt relief, and thoſe who did, obtained it by forcing the timid and weaker part of the applicants away. A ſoldier is ſtrictly forbidden to attend the delivery, except when ordered there on duty; ſo that his family muſt be ſubſiſted on his very ſcanty allowance, if his wife or children ſhould not be fortunate to get a loaf, which in our preſent ſituation is an agonizing difficulty. The bread is made from wheat ground without ſifting, oatmeal, and ground peaſe; and when baked reſembles a brick bat. For one of theſe ſmall loaves (bad and gritty as they are, and in ſize not bigger than a halfpenny roll) we muſt pay an Engliſh ſhilling.

This day arrived a Spaniſh two-decker from the Weſt, and anchored between *Cabritta* and the battery at *Algizaras*. Several ſmall craft alſo arrived. 6th.

The enemy are quiet, but buſily employed at work at their bomb batteries. This afternoon a Spaniſh frigate ſailed from *Algaziras* to *Ceuta*.

This morning we obſerved the enemy had recalled their working parties from the lines, and that they were forming fortifications, extending

1779 Nov. tending from *Fort St. Phillippe* to *Point Negro*, as a defence and cover for their camp; this gives us the alluring hope, that they have ſome intimation of our fleet being at ſea. Our batteries are not idle, but keep a well directed fire on their forts and late approaches.

The calls of duty prevent my further writing. Excuſe all inaccuracies, and believe that I ſhall always remain,

Affectionately yours, &c.

LETTER IV.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

9th. SEVERAL days more elapſed amidſt expectation and firing, but no proſpect of relief. The merchants are getting money apace; for every article they ſell they charge their own price. O ye winds be propitious, and quickly waft our floating caſtles to our relief! Haſte and ſave us from hunger, miſery, and death!

The enemy continue their works on the ſhore, and have forwarded a battery near the guard houſe, on the right of *St. Phillippe*. Our fire from the batteries has ſlackened, as the enemy do not appear very numerous in their lines.

12th. Laſt night came in two deſerters from the enemy's * Walloon guards, with their arms, &c. they aſſert that the enemy have one thouſand pieces

* The King of Spain's Body Guards.

pieces of cannon and mortars in their lines, and only wait an order from the court of *Madrid* to fire, that their magazines are full of powder, and that a reinforcement of French troops are hourly expected. They are lodged at his Excellency's houſe, and I do not doubt but their intelligence will prove advantageous to the operations of our works. They were conducted by the quarter-maſter general to *Willis*'s, and the upper batteries, from which a proper view can be taken of the enemy's works. 1779 Nov.

Wind N. W. This morning we were led to believe that our fleet was near at hand: the Spaniſh watch-towers hung out ſignal-colours, and the battery at *Cabritta Point* fired a gun for their cruizers to get under weigh. A privateer was ſoon diſcovered ſtanding for the bay, under all the ſail ſhe could croud; the gun-boats bore down upon, and fired briſkly into her, which ſhe returned as ſpiritedly: two frigates having ſlipped anchor, ſtretched acroſs from *Cabritta* to intercept her; having got within long gun ſhot, they fired two or three broadſides; the cutter then tacked and ſtood for the *Barbary* ſhore; the frigates followed, and ſoon drove to leeward; ſhe then tacked and ſtood again for the garriſon, when a third frigate and a xebec puſhed out, and likewiſe dropped to leeward, while the cutter kept her courſe: Admiral *Barcello* then hove too under *Cabritta*, with an intent to keep the windward gage: the bravadoing, bluſtering, and vigilant *Barcello*, in the *St. Jean Baptiſte* of 70 guns, eagerly bore down, and having got within half cannon ſhot, poured into her his whole 14th.

1779 Nov. 14th. whole broadſide, which the cutter returned; he then made ſignal for the gun-boats and gallies to board, but when they had rowed pretty near, the hardy crew gave them ſuch a warm reception, that they were compelled to retire. The Spaniſh admiral having fallen to leeward, endeavoured to work up again, but not being able, on account of the freſh breeze at N. W. was, to his no ſmall mortification, under the neceſſity of going to the eaſtward, with the remainder of his cruizers. She proves to be the *Buck* of *Folkſtone*, Captain *Fagg*, in nineteen days from *England*. On his dropping anchor at *New Mole*, the numerous ſpectators from the batteries and walls, gave him three cheers, and the General on his landing paid him the higheſt commendation for his conduct and bravery.—The ſeamen relate a humourous account of Captain *Fagg*.

Arrived a ſettee with thirty-eight bullocks from *Tangier*; two others were taken by the enemy's gun-boats, one of which had a packet for the garriſon; they were kept ſo long on board before they could get in, that they were nearly periſhed: their fleſh, when killed, was like a jelly, and ſold for three rials * and eight quarts per pound.

The wind having ſhifted, Admiral *Barcello* and his ſquadron returned to their ſtation: they keep a ſharp look out from *Cabritta*, being determined not to be beat again in ſo ſhameful a manner.

This

* A rial is a piece of Spaniſh coin, Gibraltar currency, eight-pence value, equal to four-pence three farthings ſterling. A quart is a Spaniſh half-penny, forty of which is given in change for an Engliſh ſhilling.

This day four *Portugueſe* who were privately diſpatched by the Governor to fetch a packet from *Faro*, returned ſafe; they had a ſmall boat which the *Moors* permitted them to carry on Camels over rocks and mountains, and having launched it in a creek under *Apes Hill*, they ſtole over in the night. We flatter ourſelves there is good news, as the General and principal officers appeared to be in high ſpirits. 1779 Nov. 24th.

This morning came in a deſerter from the enemy, and this evening another; they both belonged to the Walloon guards, and brought their arms with them: the latter was purſued by three horſemen, and would have been taken, had not our people been very alert at *Willis's*, in pouring in grape * ſhot upon the purſuers. 30th.

The enemy are bringing down great quantities of facines to the lines, and are again labouring at their advanced works, but do not ſeem diſpoſed to turn out fire. Laſt night came in two diſerters from the Walloon Guards; they report that the enemy are not to fire while they can keep the place blockaded, as General *Alvarez* is confident that famine will oblige us to ſurrender. We are certainly greatly diſtreſſed for want of freſh proviſion and vegetables.—Salt meat, which is ſold for two rials, and two and a half *per* pound, is difficult to be procured. Yeſterday a baker was obliged to ſhut up, not having flour ſufficient for his family for one month. Appearances are rather dreadful. God grant that a fleet may ſoon arrive, or the conſequences will be truly dreadful. Dec. 1.

Came

* Shot of a pound and a half, and two pound weight, a number of them put in a tin caſe, and fired, which ſcatters at the diſcharge many yards.

1779 Came in a deſerter from the Walloon guards.
Dec. 8. He was cloſely purſued by two horſemen, but our batteries made them retreat. He ſays, that the Spaniſh army are much diſtreſſed in camp for freſh water, and that a great many die of the flux, occaſioned by drinking of the ſalt ſprings.

14th. This morning we perceived two men run out of the Spaniſh lines, and preſently after two horſemen followed, and having overtaken them, they killed one on the ſpot, and ſecured the other, notwithſtanding our fire.—Laſt night deſerted two Hanoverians of *De la Motte*'s regiment. They eſcaped to the enemy from *Europa Advance Guard*, by means of a rope ladder, which was accidentally left by the King's workmen.

15th. This morning the enemy executed the deſerter they took yeſterday. All their regiments were under arms.

19th. Garriſon orders this day were as follow:

"*No gun to be fired from any of the batteries at the enemy's ſhips, when the diſtance requires more than ſix degrees elevation, unleſs ſuch ſhips are engaging, or in chaſe. Any Captain of the Royal Artillery, who may happen to be preſent on ſuch occaſions, will give his advice in the management of the guns, which the officers commanding guards will be juſtified in following.*"

21ſt. Laſt night ſailed the Buck privateer for *Mahon*, wind S. W.

27th. This day the enemy began a fire upon our outward works. They obliged the garriſon gardeners,

gardeners, who work on the iſthmus, or neck of land (termed the neutral ground) to retire. Several *Genoeſe* fiſhermen, who were dragging nets at the ſea ſide, was alſo under the neceſſity of retreating, leaving their nets, lines, and tackle, on the beach. A twenty-ſix pound ſhot fell at the north angle of Prince's lines; the centinel narrowly eſcaped. The enemy are very buſy—their approaches are in great forwardneſs, but are all maſked; their bomb batteries appear to have no ordnance mounted, nor has it been obſerved that any number of men have been employed there for ſome time paſt. We conjecture that this day is only a preface, or introduction to the grand diſplay, and that the long boaſted exhibitions are nearly ready for performance. 1779. Dec. 27.

The enemy laſt night deſtroyed great part of our gardens, and took away lines, &c. that our fiſhermen left when they made their retreat yeſterday. Came in a ſmall boat from *Tangier*, with goats, fowls, and eggs: ſhe immediately ran in under cover of the night. The goats ſold for ten * cobbs per head; fowls three † dollars ſix rials per couple; eggs, ſix rials per dozen. Alſo came in three deſerters from the Walloon guards. It is currently reported that the intelligence they bring is not altogether favourable to our wiſhes. We hope the fleet will ſhortly arrive, and that we may 28th.

* A Spaniſh dollar, value four ſhillings and eight pence ſterling at Gibraltar, is called a dollar and a half, or 12 rials, but is of no more value.

† Eight rials each, Gibraltar currency.

1779. Dec. 30. may be enabled to give the enemy a Britiſh reception whenever they attack our walls.

The enemy continue the blockade, but keep conſtantly at work; their parties are very numerous, but we cannot make them deſiſt; they have broken down all their ſtone guard-houſes, and ſeem to be converting them into works of annoyance. We may expect that the enſuing year will be fertile with intelligence, and that we ſhall be able to give a more deſcriptive account of their approaches.

It is really vexing and mortifying to view the Spaniſh hills and heights, covered with cattle, while we can ſcarce procure a piece of ſalt beef, and that at a price, which, when told, carries with it the face of improbability.

I am, dear Brother,

Affectionately your's, &c.

LETTER V.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

1780. Jan. 7. I AGAIN take the pen to write, though I aſſure you, our moſt ſanguine hope ſeems entirely loſt. Laſt night came in two deſerters of the Walloon guards; from the accounts they bring, we expect to have many more months to ſuffer; they ſay that the Spaniards engaged our fleet off *Cape Finiſter*, that the Engliſh were defeated, and a great many ſhips captured. Yeſterday arrived ſome freſh troops in

in their camp, and this afternoon, a ſmall boat 1780.
that made a puſh for the garriſon, was taken Jan. 7.
off *Cabritta point*; it is not improbable that ſhe was detached with intelligence for this place, as ſhe did not appear to be deeply laden.

A Neapolitan polacre, laden with barley, 8th.
having approached within the reach of *Europa* guns, we diſcharged a few ſhot at her, and obliged her to come in; ſhe will afford us ſome relief:—Admiral *Barcello* made a ſignal immediately for a frigate and a xebec to cruize to the eaſtward—they paſſed by within long gun ſhot of the garriſon.

Several random ſhot from the enemy, but 11th.
no material damage done; they ſeem to have a great inclination to begin the work.—We keep a moderate fire upon their parties and works.

The enemy continue to fire occaſionally—a 12th.
ſhot ſtruck the parapet of the *Old Mole*—a 26 pound ſhot (the firſt fired into the garriſon) went through the roof of Mr. *Quartin*'s houſe, and drove a ſplinter into a lady's heel * who was walking in the ſtreet;—another went through a centry box in *Landport* covered-way: A mule belonging to the waggons employed to bring ſtone from the *Devil's Tower*, was lamed by their firing: and the enemy, in an unprecedented manner, inhumanly fired at a clergyman performing the funeral ceremony over the body of a deceaſed ſoldier.

This day the Field Officers commanding 13th.
corps, aſſembled at Colonel *Roſs's* quarters, to take into conſideration the preſent ſituation of the garriſon proviſions; when it was ordered that

* Mrs. Hamilton.

1780. Jan. that the ſoldiers ration ſhould be ſhortened, viz. half-pound beef, quarter-pound pork, and one pint peaſe per week, deducted from each man's allowance.

15th. Our ſituation every day appears more alarming, there being a ſcarcity of almoſt every thing in the garriſon—fire-wood a cob per hundred; flour five rials per pound; no freſh meat except an old cow, or worn-out ox, (only one perhaps killed in a month) which is ſold at four and a half and five rials per pound; fowls twenty to twenty-four rials each; a gooſe ten dollars; a turkey twenty dollars; eggs a cob the dozen; and every other neceſſary in proportion.

This morning a ſoldier deſerted from the back of the Rock, where he was with a party cutting buſhes. We fired many ſhots at him, but all were ineffectual.

This afternoon, wind S. W. an Engliſh brig appeared in the Offing; ſhe was chaſed by a xebec and ſeveral gallies, but fortunately got ſafe into *New Mole*: She brings the joyful and happy intelligence of a fleet being within twenty-four hours ſale of the garriſon, with ſuccours.

It is almoſt beyond the power of words to deſcribe the general joy which pervaded the ſoldiery as well as the inhabitants upon this gladdening intelligence—even avarice and extortion ſeem to pauſe from their iniquities, and to participate the pleaſure inſpired by our hopes.

I am, &c.

LETTER

LETTER VI.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

THE garriſon are all on the wing:—the ſound of the fleet is all that is to be heard, and every rock and hill re-echoes the bliſsful tidings. Affection ſtretches forward and anticipates the pleaſures of knowing the tender communications of diſtant friends and ſeperated kindred. This morning flour ſold for ſixpence per pound, which was ſome time paſt two ſhillings, and a great favour to obtain it at that price; the ſhops that were ſhut up, are now opened, and adorned with bread, biſcuit, ruſk, &c. The garriſon appears in an entire ſtate of joyful commotion, and the people are ſo buſy purchaſing eatables, that it brings to my remembrance the feſtive fairs in Britain. The enemy have hung out ſignal-colours from the watch-towers; not a ſhip nor cruizer on the oppoſite ſide attempts to move. I believe the ſcene is changed without, as well as within the walls. *Barcello* muſt feel, with inexpreſſible pangs, this ſudden ſtroke that robs him of the hope of conqueſt, and compels him to view the Britiſh enſigns that bid defiance to *Andaluſia's* ſhore. 1780 Jan. 16

Came in a deſerter from the Walloon guards. Intelligence not publickly known.

Laſt night arrived (unmoleſted) a brig laden with flour; ſhe left the Britiſh convoy two days ſince, and brings word, that they have taken a Spaniſh convoy of one ſhip of the 17th.

1780 Jan. line, five frigates, and twenty-four ſail of tranſports, bound from *Bilboa* to *Cadiz*. We hourly wait their arrival. According to the order of the 13th inſtant, our ration was ſtopped.

18th. This morning came in the Appollo frigate. She brings the intelligence that ſeveral Spaniſh men of war got under ſail from *Cadiz*, to engage our fleet, that the Britiſh were victorious, and that the enemy had one ſhip ſunk, one blown up, one ſtranded, and four captured, *glorious news!*—Received half a pint of rice in lieu of peaſe.

19th. Laſt night two Engliſh men of war arrived, and confirm the news above. About ſix this morning came in, the *Phœnix*, a *Spaniſh* 80 gun ſhip, commanded by Admiral Don *Langara*, who received a wound in his groin during the engagement: ſhe loſt her main top-maſt and other rigging during the action. The Britiſh fleet having ſtood too near to the *Barbary* ſhore, over-ſhot the bay, and drove to eaſtward in the night, and it is probable it will be two or three days before they can work up. The Spaniſh Admiral came aſhore this evening.

21ſt. Wind E. Came in three Spaniſh 70 gun ſhips, one a Commodore, alſo the *Guipoſcoana*, a 64, taken with the *Bolboa* convoy, and a great part of our fleet; they are ſo thick I cannot number them with any preciſion. About eleven this forenoon came in the *Prince George*, commanded by Admiral *Digby*, with *Prince William Henry* on board. Admirals *Rodney* and *Roſs* are ſtanding for the Rock. Our ſhipping have taken to the eaſtward two xebecs,

xebecs, and a great many ſettees bound for the camp of St. *Roque*. *Prince William Henry* landed, accompanied by the Admiral; the Governor received them with the warmeſt encomiums, and the garriſon and ſhipping performed a ſalute. 1780 Jan. 21ſt.

The Spaniſh ſquadron, commanded by Admiral *Don Juan de Langara, Gefe de Eſquadra*, which Admiral *Rodney* fell in with off St. *Mary*'s, are as follow:

Phœnix,	80 guns.	Taken and brought in here.
Diligente,	70 do.	
Monarca,	70 do.	
Princeſſa,	70 do.	
St. Domingo,	70 do.	blown up.
St. Eugenio,	70 do.	taken, then abandoned
St. Julian,	70 do.	ſtranded.
St. Lorenzo,	70 do.	Eſcaped.
St. Auguſtin,	70 do.	
Santa Roſalia,	26 do.	
Santa Cecilia,	28 do.	

Laſt night, about eleven o'clock, the Terrible man of war, and four other ſhips, being drove by the rapidity of the current, near the enemy's forts *Phillipe* and *Negro*, they beat to arms in their camp, and made a poſition of defence; they fired 157 ſhot and 7 ſhells, but did no other damage than killing a Spaniſh priſoner on board the Terrible. This day the Spaniſh Commodore landed. 22d.

Wind W. Took a ſettee going to Ceuta. 23d.

This day the troops received their beef and pork, ſtopped laſt week. All hands at work unloading the ſhipping—Several cranes have been erected from *South-port* to the *New Mole*. 24th.

1780 Jan. 25th. The enemy this morning fired two ſhot towards the garriſon, one grazed North line-wall guard-houſe. About eight this morning, a corporal and five private men of the Walloons who made a puſh for the garriſon, were purſued by a party of horſe and foot, more than half way acroſs the iſthmus—two of the men they knocked down with the butts of their firelocks, pierced them ſeveral times with their bayonets. The Corporal they ſecured, and carried him and one of the dead bodies away in triumph. The other three eſcaped the maſſacre, and arrived ſafe at *Landport*.

Arrived from the Eaſt this morning, Admiral *George Bridges Rodney*, and ſeveral other ſhips. This day we received three flags of truce, reſpecting the exchange of priſoners.

26th. This morning we perceived the Spaniſh infantry under arms; ſoon after obſerved a gibbet erected, and a criminal executed. It is beyond diſpute, that the unhappy ſufferer is the Corporal they took yeſterday on the iſthmus. This afternoon the Fortune cutter, under a flag of truce, conveyed the ſick and wounded priſoners to the *Orange Grove*, where the enemy received them. Came in, and anchored in the Bay, Admiral *Lockhart Roſs*, with ſome ſettee prizes taken to the eaſtward.

27th. This morning arrived from *Tangier*, a ſmall boat with lemons and oranges;—a moſt uſeful article, as they are very ſalutary in the cure of the ſcurvy. Came in a Spaniſh brig. Four Spaniſh line of battle ſhips and a 64, are at anchor in the Bay, adorned with the Britiſh enſigns.

It

It is eaſy to imagine the effect which this mortifying exhibition muſt have upon the mind of *Don Barcello*; aggravated, no doubt, by the diſappointed iſſue to his own threats and idle vapourings. 1780 Jan. 27th.

Arrived a boat from *Tangier*, with a few dozen of fowls. Alſo a ſettee with bullocks and other refreſhments from *Tetuan*. One of our frigates cruizing in the Offing, captured a ſettee bound for the camp. 28th.

This forenoon landed from 4 ſhips of war, the ſecond battalion of the 73d regiment of foot, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel *George M'Kenzie*: They were under orders for *Minorca*, but our Governor, with the advice of the Admirals, and Field Officers, has detained them here. This afternoon, wind S. W. Commodore *Eliott* in the *Edgar*, and a frigate, gave chaſe to a ſhip off *Cabritta*, under *Dutch* colours; which, as ſoon as ſhe perceived, ſhe tacked and ſtood for the land; *Eliott* bore down up her, and quickly got within long gun-ſhot, when ſhe hoiſted *Spaniſh* colours, and ran aſhore under *Cabritta*: A briſk fire enſued on both ſides, in which the battery at that place took a part, but Admiral *Rodney* perceiving their ſituation rather dangerous, hoiſted a ſignal for them to return. It is imagined that ſhe was detached with inſtructions to *Don Barcello*. 29th.

The Spaniſh boats were yeſterday afternoon employed in endeavouring to get the ſhip off, which they did not effect till this morning's tide. Early this morning came in three deſerters from the Walloon Guards, they were naked, having ſwam from the foot of fort *St.* 30th.

1780 Jan. *Phillippe.* They report that the Spaniſh General holds a poſition of defence every night, as he expects our ſhipping will fire upon their camp, before they leave the bay. The enemy have mounted artillery in their fourteen and ſeven gun batteries, and ſeem to have prepared to act on the defenſive at their forts—We keep a moderate fire upon them, and often put their guards in diſorder. Every one is amazed that the enemy do not return it, for ſurely they can have no hope of taking this place by famine, ſince we have received ſupplies from *Britain;* or; ſhould they ſtill entertain that idea, a few ſhips of the line ſtationed here may keep the communication between *Tangier* and the Garriſon ſo open as utterly to defeat ſo indeciſive a project.

I am, &c.

LETTER VII.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

Feb. 3. THE ſtores and proviſions being almoſt landed, the fleet are preparing for ſea, and it is confidently reported, that none of the ſhips of the line will be left here to guard the Bay; we may therefore conclude, that in a ſhort time we ſhall experience a ſituation equally as diſtreſſing as that from which we have lately been relieved; for while the enemy commands a ſuperior force in the bay, the

the ſupplies which would otherwiſe be for- 1780
warded from *Tangier* and *Tetuan*, will be cut Feb.
off: A few days will leave our ſituation no myſtery.

This day all the Spaniſh deſerters embarked on board the men of war, on their paſſage to *England*. Sailed the *Childers* ſloop, with diſpatches.

Came in at *Landport*, two private men and 5th.
a drummer, belonging to the enemy's Walloon Guards; they aſſert, that the Spaniſh General has not any orders to fire, but on the defenſive, and that Admiral *Don Barcello* has received advice from *Madrid*, to renew the blockade as ſoon as the Britiſh fleet departs, at which time he is to be reinforced with two ſhips of the line and ſeveral frigates.

Came in a deſerter from the Walloon 10th.
guards.

This afternoon, wind E. N. E. Admiral 13th.
Rodney made ſignal to weigh. About twelve o'clock, the men of war, including the five *Spaniſh* ſhips, viz. *Phœnix*, *Diligente*, *Monarca*, *Princeſſa*, *Guipoſcoana*, and convoy, got under ſail. Several families took this ſafe opportunity of flying from fatigue and danger, and embarked on board the fleet. The battery at *Cabritta*, fired a gun to alarm the coaſt, which was returned at *Ceuta*, as our ſhipping ſtood towards that place in order to clear the land; in the evening they were all out of ſight, but the enemy continued to fire alarm guns, and threw a great number of rockets from the watch towers.

The *Edgar*, under the command of Commodore *Eliott*, the *Panther* of 64 guns, the *Enterprize*

1780 *prize* and *Porcupine* frigates; *Gibraltar* and *For-*
Feb. 14 *tune* ſloops remain here. At *Algaziras* are at anchor, one ſhip of 70 guns, one ditto 50, one frigate, and a few xebecs. We are now able to oppoſe our foes on the oppoſite ſide.

Yeſterday Admiral *Langara*, and the other officers of his fleet, were permitted to paſs to *Spain* on parole.

15th. Admiral *Barcello* this morning hauled out to the left of the battery at *Algaziras*; he appears to be very buſy in getting up his top-maſts and yards; ſome of his gallies paſſed to the weſtward. On the land ſide a few working parties have again made their appearance.

27th. Nothing material has happened, for ſome days. The *Spaniſh* horſe and infantry, have been performing their evolutions, twice every day: it is computed their number, fit for actual ſervice, is about 17 or 18,000. Laſt night came in a ſmall boat with lemons and oranges from *Tangier*. The enemy's gun-boats chaſed her under *Europa*, which occaſioned a few ſhot to be diſcharged from that poſt.

This day arrived at *Algaziras*, from the weſtward, four *Spaniſh* line of battle ſhips, two frigates, and one xebec.

28th. Wind W. Arrived at *Algaziras*, a *Spaniſh* frigate and a xebec from the weſtward: the frigate ſaluted Admiral *Barcello*, but no return was made. It appears as if they intended to renew the blockade.

Mar. 4. This morning alarm ſignals were made at *Ceuta*, of the appearance of an enemy to the eaſtward. Wind N. N. E. Admiral *Barcello* immediately looſed his fore-top-ſails, as a ſignal to weigh. A frigate, xebec, and two gallies,

lies, made ready, and ſtretched acroſs for *Ceuta*: ſoon after he followed, but had not quite cleared *Europa*, when the cruizers diſcovered the ſuppoſed prey to be a xebec. The wind having ſhifted to the S. E. this evening, the enemy have again anchored at their look-out on the oppoſite ſide. Several gallies and other ſmall cruizers, that ſtole away during the continuance of our fleet, have ventured to return. 1780. Mar.

This day our cartel, under a flag of truce, received from Spain 390 Britiſh priſoners of war. They report that *Spain* is determined on the conqueſt of this place in contempt of all impediments, and that a large body of *French* troops are really embarked for the camp, to forward this determined object. 12th.

Laſt night a deſerter came in from the Walloon guards. He gives an account that the enemy ſuffered conſiderably from our fire yeſterday. One ſhell killed and wounded 25 perſons. 16th.

The Spaniſh ſquadron this morning were decorated with colours of various ſorts. In the afternoon their troops in camp were arranged in three lines; the battery at *Fort Negro* made a triple ſalvo of 12 guns each time, which was anſwered as often by a running fire from the army. The batteries and ſhipping at *Algaziras* performed the ſame. 19th.

A neutral veſſel was brought in by the Spaniſh cruizers for examination, Admiral *Barcello* being determined not to let a ſhip paſs unnoticed. For theſe three days we have not fired much, being buſily employed in ſtrengthening our

1780. Mar. our works, particularly thoſe adjoining the iſthmus, as the enemy work buſily on that place at the erection of new approaches.

25th. Wind W. This day arrived ſeveral polacres and ſettees at the *Orange Grove*.—We only conjecture they are laden with ſtores for the camp.

29th. At day-break this morning a ſignal-gun was fired from a xebec near the point; ſeveral armed cruizers got under ſail, and formed a line from the point to *Ape's Hill*, where, after firing a ſhot, they captured a ſettee, and brought her in, with her colours reverſed. It is imagined ſhe had cattle on board for the garriſon, which is very much wanted, as very little freſh meat can be purchaſed. Our proviſion is chiefly ſalt beef and pork, and that we uſe ſparingly, not knowing when we may receive another ſupply. Vegetables are ſcarce and dear, and of the worſt ſort in quality. Our barren rock yields but little; but as neceſſity generally adopts a remedy, many have begun to convert the ſolid parts of the rock into kitchen gardens, which ſome have effected by raiſing walls one height above another, and filling the incloſed with earth. It will appear a ſcene of enchantment to Admiral *Barcello*, when he beholds the face of the dry and barren Rock in a ſtate of vegetation.

I am,

Dear Brother,

Yours, &c.

LETTER

LETTER VIII.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

THE enemy are ſtill forwarding their approaches, and on our part, I can affirm there is no deficiency. The *Spaniards* muſt ſuſtain conſiderable loſſes in their operations, as we ſeldom let them reſt. Our fire, of late, does not prevent them working. Judge what muſt be their ſufferings, when we are hourly pouring upon them an inceſſant diſcharge of every kind of ſhot and ſhells. 1780 Ap. 7.

The ſufferings of the Britiſh troops at preſent, is from heavy duty, and the ſcarcity of proviſion. When the enemy have compleated their approaches, I imagine they will retaliate, but we are prepared to withſtand their efforts.

Laſt night a boat was diſpatched to *Barbary*, to learn if there were a packet, or any intelligence from Britain.

This morning, about three o'clock, the boat that was ſent to *Barbary*, arrived ſafe; ſhe brought a packet to the General, but not any intelligence has tranſpired. The *Patron of the boat has refuſed to anſwer any particular queſtions. 10th.

Laſt night, wind W. arrived the *Hyena* frigate, in thirteen days from *England*. She exchanged ſeveral ſhot in the Gut with the enemy's xebecs. Admiral *Barcello*, this morning, (wind having ſhifted) detached a frigate to 14th.

the

* The Maſter, called Patron by the Spaniards.

1780 the W. where ſhe keeps tacking and hovering in the Gut.

Wind E. This morning, about nine o'clock,
20th. the *Edgar* and *Hyena*, got under weigh ſuddenly, and ſtood to the weſtward; the *Spaniſh* towers immediately ſpread the alarm, and Admiral *Barcello*, with three ſhips of the line hove out, but to his no ſmall mortification, could not weather *Cabritta*, until our ſhipping were out of ſight, as he was obliged to make ſeveral tacks in the Bay, owing to the ſtiff breeze.

This day *Don Barcello* and his ſquadron, returned to their former anchorage, baffled and diſappointed by the eſcape of our frigates.

27th. Laſt night came in a ſchooner from *Malaga*, with lemons and oranges: the crew are natives of *Spain*, but came in here, knowing it to be a good market.

28th. Some time in the courſe of the night (which was thick and hazy) the ſchooner ſlipped out unperceived by the enemy.

30th. Came in a boat from *Tetuan*, with twelve dozen of fowl: they had ſeveral cocks on board, which they were forced to kill, fearing their crowing might alarm the *Spaniſh* cruizers that cover the Bay.

May 1 Laſt night, about ten o'clock, a fire broke out in the enemy's camp, which raged with great violence for upwards of two hours.

3d. Wind E. This day arrived a convoy from the eaſtward at *Algaziras* and *Orange Grove*. It has been obſerved that many carts are employed in carrying ſhot and ſhells from the Pier to the *Artillery Park*, where they are ſcaling their cannon; their troops appear very buſy, and their motions indicate a ſpeedy attack.

The

The inhabitants are beginning to erect ſheds at the ſouthward near *Mount-Pleaſant*, as a retreat whenever the enemy open upon us, which many are of opinion will be ſoon. The *Spaniſh* troops are exerciſed every day, and frequently fire in their camp. 1780 May.

Came in a boat from *Tangier*, with lemons, fowl, leather, and *Barbary* pumps. The great demand in this place for ſhoes, renders leather an article of great value. 4th.

This afternoon the *Spaniſh* army were arranged in two diviſions, and about four o'clock began a ſham fight, ſimilar to an attack upon the garriſon. One diviſion took poſt on the riſing ground under the *Queen's Chair* (ſuppoſed to be the Britiſh) while the other diviviſion, in the valley on the common, endeavoured to diſlodge them, and take poſſeſſion of their intrenchments: the fire was well ſupported on both ſides for three hours, when the Britiſh forces were entirely routed;—they had ſeveral field pieces, and ſome cannon with them. I aſſure you, that the fight afforded great entertainment, and the army diſplayed ſome merit in their performance: they have been practiſing ſeveral days. It is evident they mean to familiarize their troops to the nature of an attack, ſo that they may be more expert when they make a regular aſſault. 6th.

This day a cartel from *Spain*, brought over between forty and fifty Britiſh priſoners of war: they confidently aſſert, that fourteen ſail of the line, ſeveral frigates, and a number of tranſports with troops, were hourly expected to ſail from *Cadiz*, but their deſtination was a matter of uncertainty. 7th.

Laſt

1780 May 8. Laſt night, four deſerters endeavoured to reach the garriſon, only one eſcaped ſafe; three were either taken or ſhot by the *Spaniſh* horſe patroles:—he is one of the Walloons, and ſays, that the *Spaniſh* General has received advice from *Madrid*, to fire whenever he thinks proper; two large mortars are mounted in their lines, with an incredible number of cannon. From this intelligence, we may conclude that a bombardment will ſhortly take place.

This day a ſoldier was executed in the garriſon for theft. He died with great contrition and penitence, ſeemingly ſenſible of his ſituation and wickedneſs.

9th. This day the *Spaniards* executed two men; we ſuppoſe them to be thoſe whom they took on the night of the 7th inſtant.

11th. This day came in a deſerter from *Spain*: he is the firſt native who has deſerted to us. He ſays that the duty in the *Spaniſh* camp is inceſſant and fatiguing, and that cannon and mortars are mounted for the purpoſe of opening a fire upon us immediately.

12th. Laſt night came in a boat from *Tangier*, with fowls, pidgeons, and leather. The enemy chaſed her under the guns.

15th. This day a *Swediſh* ſhip having approached *Europa*, we fired a ſhot, and obliged her to come in; but to our great diſappointment, found her cargo to conſiſt of ſalt only.

This morning the *Sweed* ſailed from hence to the weſt, but the *Spaniſh* cruizers afterwards took her into *Algaziras* for examination.

A *Spaniſh* xebec arrived at *Algaziras* from the eaſtward, towing two large gun boats.

This

This morning two boats arrived from *Tangier*, with fowls and lemons: they bring advice, that the *Fly* packet-boat was, on the night of the 17th inſt. cut out of the Port by the *Spaniards*. It appears from this circumſtance, that the *Moors* are inclined to favour the *Spaniſh* cauſe, or otherwiſe they would not have ſuffered an act of this nature to be committed under the walls of their town. 1780 May. 18th.

Arrived this day from the Weſt, a ſchooner laden with leather, butter and oil. Nothing extraordinary in the enemy's camp. Our garriſon are beginning to be very ſickly; the ſmall pox rages with great violence, and carries off 18 or 20 per week, but moſtly children. The enemy are very buſy at *Algaziras*; a great many boats are every day employed from the *Orange Grove* to that place, but we cannot obſerve any thing particular they are doing. We ſuppoſe they are conveying ordnance ſtores for the ſiege. 22d.

I am your's, &c.

LETTER IX.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

THE cannonade is continued on the enemy:—they are conſtantly bringing down ſtores and ammunition to their lines, and make great progreſs in their approaches. 'Tis ſomewhat ſtrange, notwithſtanding the ſlaughter June 1

ter

1780 June. ter our ſhot and ſhells occaſions among them, that they are not diſpoſed to retaliate.

Wind W. arrived a ſettee from *Tangier* with 11 bullocks, 13 ſheep, 24 dozen fowls, and a quantity of leather, eggs, and lemons. She got in unobſerved by the enemy; the wind being freſh, forced the *Spaniſh* cruizers into *Algaziras*.

4th. Came in two boats with a few fowl from *Tetuan*.

5th. Laſt night a ſoldier deſerted from the *Molehead* guard. He had not been long poſted ſentinel, when he left his firelock and clothes in the box, and took his paſſage (naked) in the water.

6th. Came in a boat with fifteen ſheep from *Tangier*. The Patron relates, that an Engliſh brig arrived in that Port, in eighteen days from *Portſmouth*, laden with butter, porter, and flour, and that the *Spaniſh* cruizers were watching her cloſely.

7th. About one this morning, wind N. W. a ſhip was diſcovered ſtanding for the *New Mole*; the *Enterprize* hailed her; when ſhe anſwered, *A proviſion ſhip from England*; the frigate hailed again, and ſuſpecting that ſhe was not a friend, immediately hoiſted the ſignal of an enemy's approach; ſoon after ſeveral more appeared keeping the ſame courſe. The *Enterprize* diſcharged a ſhot at the firſt, and the enemy finding they were diſcovered, took to their boats, and ſet them on fire, one after another, being nine in number. The garriſon drums beat to arms, and the ſoldiery immediately repaired to their ſtations. A briſk fire from the batteries and

and ſhipping commenced on the *Spaniſh* boats, by which they muſt have ſuffered conſiderably. The terrified inhabitants kept weeping with the moſt bitter and inexpreſſible anguiſh, expecting every minute a bombardment from the land ſide. 1780 June 7.

The *Britiſh* ſeamen diſplayed great firmneſs and valour in repelling theſe diſtructive viſitants. Every boat was inſtantly manned, and with daring reſolution they ſteered to theſe flaming devourers grappling to their burning ſides.—Amidſt the moſt imminent danger and ſcorching heat, they towed them out of the direction of the *New Mole*, where twenty ſail of ſhipping lay at anchor—three drove to the eaſtward.

Admiral *Barcello*, with his ſquadron, was under ſail, flattering himſelf, that if our ſhipping were not burnt, they would cut their cables and puſh to ſea; but his ſtratagems were fruſtrated, and this morning he returned to his old ſtation, to ſtudy more miſchief.

Some time in the night came in a boat from *Tangier*, with fowls and leather. It was fortunate ſhe was not fired at from the garriſon, as ſhe might reaſonably have been ſuſpected for a Spaniard.

This morning came in a privateer and a large ſettee from *Portugal*, with ſheep, wine, oil, and lemons. This muſt be an additional mortification to *Don Barcello*, notwithſtanding the vigilance of his numerous cruizers to diſtreſs us, that we are ſo ſeaſonably ſupplied by our friends. 8th.

Arrived with a fine breeze at W. two boats from *Barbary*—they brought 48 ſheep and a 10th.

1780 few fowls. A gun was fired from one of the
June. enemy's gallies, but too late to prevent their
11th. getting in.

Laſt night a man on duty, at the batteries on the hill, fell from a precipice of the Rock, and was daſhed to pieces. It is ſuppoſed he intended to deſert.

12th. Laſt night arrived a ſettee from *Tangier*, with 38 bullocks and 80 ſheep; alſo a ſmall boat with oil. Theſe frequent ſupplies will enable the garriſon to ſuſtain their ſituation with the utmoſt ſpirit. Beef is ſold for three rials, and mutton four rials per pound.

14th. The enemy's line of battle ſhips and frigates ſailed from *Algaziras* to the Eaſt; Admiral *Barcello* has hoiſted his flag on board a xebec—We cannot conjecture what is meant by this manœuvre.

15th. Laſt night ſailed from the *New Mole*, a 20 gun ſhip for *England*, with diſpatches. Wind N. E. Came in a ſmall ſettee from the eaſtward with fruit.

18th. Arrived in the night from *Algaziras*, a boat with ſix deſerters belonging to the naval and marine ſervice of the enemy: they ſay that our opponents are heartily tired of their ſituation.

19th. Wind W. This day arrived at *Algaziras*, a *Spaniſh* frigate and three large xebecs, accompanied by a *Moriſh* corſair.

20th. Came in a ſmall boat, with a few ſheep and fowls.

22d. Laſt night our batteries kept a hot and inceſſant fire upon the enemy's working parties; they laboured uncommonly hard at their approaches, as we heard their hammers during the whole courſe of the night. We did not

obſerve

obſerve any additional work this morning, ſo that we conclude they were nailing down platforms in their batteries. We continue our working parties on the fortifications, which are in extreme good condition to annoy them. 1780 June.

Wind E. Came in a *Tartan* from *Minorca*, with leather, wine, and charcoal. A ſeaſonable ſupply—ſhoes being much wanted (which are ſold at 20 and 22 rials per pair) charcoal is alſo a great acquiſition, as firing is become a very ſcarce article; the wrecks of the fireſhips deſtroyed on the 7th inſtant, being almoſt exhauſted, we ſhall find ourſelves greatly neceſſitated in a ſhort time for a ſufficiency for cooking. A *Portugueſe* fiſherman, who had pulled a rib from one of the wrecks, on the morning of their deſtruction, and towed it to ſhore with his boat, received nine dollars for the ſmall purchaſe. The wine alſo is very acceptable. 23d.

This forenoon a Spaniſh 70 gun ſhip from the Eaſt, having a Britiſh enſign on her fore-top-maſt-head, and a yellow flag over it, as a ſignal of defiance, ſtretched in cloſe towards *Roſia Bay*, accompanied with two frigates and a xebec, and opened their fire upon the Panther and Enterprize: our ſhipping and batteries gave them a well directed return, the 70 gun ſhip received ſeveral ſhot, the xebec had one of her ſails damaged, and her boom carried away; three of the enemy's ſhot came on ſhore; one fell at *Europa*, one at the *Devil's Bowling Green*, and one at the *New Mole*.—Fifteen men were wounded on board the Enterprize frigate, by ſome powder taking fire during the action, nine were ſent to the Naval 24th.

1780 June Hoſpital, the others remained in the ſhip, not being in a dangerous way.

27th. This morning at two o'clock, (it being a dead calm) the enemy began to fire upon the garriſon, and the ſhipping in *Reſta Bay*. —It is conjectured they were gun-boats or floating-batteries, for it being very dark, it was impoſſible to perceive their form. Several ſhot, (26lb. weight) came on ſhore at *South-barracks*, but happily did no damage. The ſhipping and garriſon kept up a briſk fire, the picquets of the ſeveral regiments were under arms, and the women and children raiſed, on hearing a general diſcharge of cannon. It is not improbable that this is a ſtratagem of Admiral *Barcello's*, to harraſs and fatigue us with repeated firings and alarms from the Bay, and then give the deciſive ſtroke; but they have Britons to encounter. The more we feel our enemy, the more ardent are our deſires to engage them.

29th. Wind W. Arrived a boat, with ſundry ſmall articles, from *Tangier*.

30th. This day, our Town-Major (Captain *Burke*, 58th Regiment,) went out at *Bay-ſide* and received a * parley from the enemy. Not the leaſt intelligence has tranſpired. The ſituation of the enemy's works and approaches, indicate a bombardment, and ſome imagine that articles of capitulation have been ſent in for negotiation.

The enemy have for ſeveral days been carrying ing

* An Officer advancing with a drummer beating, for the purpoſe of conveying or receiving conditions, during which time the firing on each ſide ceaſes.

ing ſtores in covered waggons to their lines: they keep ſtrengthening and advancing their approaches; their horſe and infantry are exerciſing daily, and a great many men employed in and about their Artillery Park,—we can plainly perceive they have a great quantity of ſhot and ſhells piled there. With fervent wiſhes for your health and welfare, I remain, 1780 June.

Dear Brother,

Affectionately yours, &c.

LETTER X.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

OUR cartel, under a flag of truce, proceeded half way over the Bay this forenoon, and received from the *Spaniſh* cartel 100 priſoners of war, taken in the *Admiral Keppel* privateer. They bring information that 42 ſail of *French* and *Spaniſh* line of battle ſhips, and ten bomb-ketches, have actually ſailed from *Cadiz* for this place, and that 30,000 men are within a ſhort march of the camp of St. *Roque*. This makes it evident that Spain is determined if poſſible, to take Gibraltar, ſo that we may ſhortly expect warm work. Some conſultations have been held, but the reſult is not made public. July 2.

Laſt night, wind E. N. E. the *Panther*, Capt. *Harvey*, got under way with a ſnoaring breeze; 3d.

1780 July. ſome affirm ſhe is gone to *Tangier*, for the preſervation of the ſhip, others, that ſhe has ſailed for *England*. The report made by the priſoners received from Spain yeſterday occaſioned her departure. Our force is not very formidable, the *Enterprize* and *Porcupine* frigates, *St. Firmin* ſloop, the *Gibraltar* and *Fortune* cutters, only remaining on the ſtation.

An armed boat having come near our ſhips this forenoon, was fired at ſeveral times to make her ſheer off. It is imagined that *Don Barcello* came over in her, to ſee what had become of the *Panther*.

5th. This forenoon, the Spaniards were very buſy in camp; ſeveral parties practiſing their mortars. We kept up a very hot fire laſt night upon their parties, particularly with ſmall ſhells, which are very deſtructive.

8th. Laſt night, wind E. four old India ſhips ſailed on their paſſage to *England*. They came with the fleet under the command of Admiral *Rodney*. Our ſhipping intend (as the nights are now dark) to ſlip out occaſionally. This afternoon came in a deſerter from the Walloon Guards: He ſwam from a battery on this ſide *Port Negro*—the enemy fired two ſhots at him. He ſays, the Spaniards are meditating a vigorous ſtorm againſt this place, and that on 7th of June, when the fireſhips were ſent in, he was an aſſiſtant gunner at the lines, where every thing was in readineſs to bombard the town, in caſe any of thoſe ſhips had dropped into the *New Mole*, that the matches were lighted, and only waited for the word "*Fire.*"

Wind

Wind W. came in a packet-boat from *Faro*, —She lay eight days in the creeks of the *Barbary* ſhore, before ſhe could find an opportunity of getting in.—The *Portugueſe* Captain ſays, it was currently reported, that the *Britiſh* fleet had defeated the *French*, on their paſſage to join the *Spaniards* at *Cadiz*. How far this is true, time will inform us. 1780. July 10th.

The priſoners of war brought in here the 2d inſtant, aſſert, that ſeveral more fireſhips are preparing at *Algaziras* and the rivers. The naval Commander on this intelligence, removed all veſſels from *New Mole* into the Bay.

Wind W. Arrived a boat from *Tangier*, with fowls. From the account ſhe brings, we may expect no further intercourſe with *Barbary*: The Patron ſays, two of our garriſon boats, were chaſed on ſhore by the *Spaniards*, and captured in that port. The Emperor of *Morocco*, ſtill winks at the hoſtilities committed by them, and even countenances their depredations, by permitting the *Spaniſh* boats to ſeize our veſſels coming into *Tangier*; ſeveral have been taken under the walls of that place. 11th.

Several *Spaniſh* frigates and xebecs keep cruizing in the Gut, and to the eaſtward of the Rock. *Barcello* manifeſts great alertneſs.

Between one and two o'clock this morning, the *Spaniſh* gun-boats began an attack upon our ſhipping: The fire was returned by us, but it is imagined without any effect, they being imperceptible to the eye, the flaſh of their guns being the only object we had to direct us: Several of the enemy's ſhot came on ſhore, and a gun was diſmounted on board the *Enterprize* frigate. 17th.

GARRISON

1780.
July

GARRISON ORDERS.

Whenever there is any firing from the garriſon or the enemy, or any appearance of the enemy's ſhips, row boats, or armed veſſels approaching, the Commiſſioned Officers commanding guards, are to report to the Governor what they obſerve, and mention whether all is well on the guard.

19th. About two this morning, little wind, the enemy's gun-boats again attacked the ſhipping and garriſon, without doing any particular damage, except rouſing the wearied ſoldiery, and timid inhabitants from their nightly ſlumbers.

This day a ſoldier deſerted from *Upper Forbes*'s, where he was at work. He got down, by a ſcaling ladder, and was not diſcovered until he was ſeen running acroſs the ſands, too late to fire at him with any effect. It is not improbable but we ſhall be more frequently troubled with the gun-boats, as there is not the leaſt doubt but he will inform the enemy how far their ſhot reaches.

23d. Wind W. Arrived a *Spaniſh* ſhip of the line at *Algaziras*—and alſo came in here a ſmall boat from *Faro*, with lemons and onions.

24th. This day our cartel received from *Spain* five Britiſh priſoners of war, who were ſick when the laſt cartel arrived.

31ſt. Wind E. Laſt night four empty tranſports ſailed from hence on their paſſage to *England*: It is imagined the enemy did not perceive them.

them. About noon a veſſel arrived from *Mi-* 1780
norca, with wine, leather, and onions; ſhe July.
narrowly eſcaped being taken behind the Rock—A half galley that came out to intercept her, was fired at by our batteries and ſhipping, which made her ſheer off.

Your's, &c.

LETTER XI.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

WIND Weſt. This morning between ten Aug. 3
and eleven o'clock, ſeveral guns were diſtinctly heard in the Gut; ſoon after, we diſcovered the *Spaniſh* cruizers chaſing a ſmall ſettee, which ſtood for the Bay, but before ſhe could get under the cover of our guns, was obliged to ſtrike. It is aſſerted that ſhe was detached from *Faro* with the mail, the loſs of which will be regretted by thoſe perſons who have been long without hearing from their friends.

Several veſſels arrived from the weſtward at 5th.
Algaziras, ſuppoſed to be laden with ordnance and military ſtores.

We have kept almoſt a conſtant fire upon 12th.
the enemy this week paſt, but cannot make them deſiſt from their labours, which they diligently attend to.

Wind

1780 Aug. Wind W. Early this morning, the *Spaniſh* gallies and gun-boats ſailed from *Algaziras*—a ſmall brig appeared ſtanding for this place; the enemy began a fire upon her, both of round and grape ſhot, which ſhe run through, till ſhe got nearly within the cover of the guns at *Europa*, when it fell a dead calm, and to our great mortification, ſhe was boarded and towed off by the enemy, nor could we afford her any aſſiſtance. This veſſel is known to be the *Dolphin*, with ſupplies from *Liſbon*.

16th. This day our cartel received the crews of four veſſels taken on their paſſage hither, viz. *Dolphin*, Captain *Grant*, from *Liſbon*; *Sally* and *Rachael*, Captain *Hays*, from *London*; *Polly*, Captain *Coffin*, from ditto; and *Betſey*, Captain *Wilſon*, from ditto. The three latter were taken in and about *Tangier-Bay*, within muſquet ſhot of the town.

26th. Laſt night the enemy threw up a great quantity of ſand upon their works, to prevent the penetration of our ſhot; their approaches are forwarded with an aſtoniſhing aſſiduity; we can plainly perceive that they have received a reinforcement of troops. From the progreſs of their operations, it is imagined, by thoſe experienced in war, that a ſhort period will open the grand and long expected diſplay, wherein Britons are to become reſolute performers. If intrepidity can withſtand ſuch a numerous band of beſiegers, we have every hope of being victorious.

Our Governor has made great additions to our fortifications;—ſeveral new batteries have been erected upon the hill, and others planned out. Should the enemy not open

till

till theſe are compleated, we ſhall ſing to the *Dons*, the old ſong of Defiance, and laugh at their approaches. 1780

I am,

Dear Brother,

Sincerely your's.

LETTER XII.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

THIS day ſeveral large *Spaniſh* ſettees arrived from the eaſtward, with timber and faſcines, they anchored off the pier at the *Orange Grove*. It is conjectured they have other works in contemplation. Part of their cargo was landed this afternoon. Sept. 3

Laſt night two ſoldiers deſerted from *Middle-hill* Guard; they got down the back of the Rock, which is a dreadful precipice, and ſufficient to deter the moſt hardened. 9th.

The enemy keeps our port blockaded much cloſer than ever; about ten of their armed cruizers are conſtantly under *Cabritta*, ſome at *Tarifa*, about eight near *Tangier*, three or four at *Tetuan*, ſome at *Cueta*, and ſeveral at the Gut's mouth, ſo that it is almoſt impoſſible for any veſſel to eſcape: The gun-boats and gallies form a chain every night from *Cabritta* to *Europa Point*, and in the morning return to their anchorage.

On

1780 Sept. On the land ſide the enemy are quiet, very few working parties employed, their works appear to be complete. We have not received an ox from *Barbary* ſince June 12th, and every ſpecies of proviſion is now at a moſt extravagant rate. The ſmall quantity of poultry in the garriſon, ſells high; a turkey cock, was ſold a few days ago for three guineas and a half; a gooſe one pound ten ſhillings; ducks a guinea a couple; a hen twelve ſhillings; eggs eight pence each; powder ſugar two ſhillings the pound; ſoap one ſhilling and four-pence ditto, charcoal half-a-guinea for 25 lb weight, oil two ſhillings the pint; pork two ſhillings and ſix-pence the pound; fiſh at the rate of eighteen-pence ditto; fire-wood five ſhillings and ſix-pence per hundred weight; tallow candles two ſhillings and ſix-pence per pound; onions eight-pence ditto; and all other articles proportionally dear, and ſcarcely to be purchaſed.

From this ſketch you may form an idea of our preſent ſituation, and the conſequences that are to follow, if ſome ſupplies do not arrive from England.—Arrived a xebec from the weſtward at *Algaziras*.

14th. Arrived laſt night, a ſmall ſettee from *Minorca* with wine, oil, ſugar, honey, onions, turkeys, and other neceſſaries, which are ſold at enormous prices; many things almoſt for their weight in ſilver.

16th. This day a company of markſmen were formed out of the ſeveral regiments; they are to practice twice a day, under the command of Lieutenant *Burleigh*, of the 39th regiment.

Our

Our cartel this day received a Midſhipman from *Spain*, a priſoner of war. It is confidently aſſerted, that the combined fleet have taken off the *Madeiras*, fifty or ſixty ſail of our outward-bound *Weſt-Indiamen*, and ſome *Eaſt-India* ſhips, many of them already arrived at *Cadiz*; if the account is true, the loſs will be ſenſibly felt by *Britain*—The enemy are buſily employed in raiſing the *merlons of all their batteries at the lines, with faſcines and ſand bags, and work openly upon their †glacis. We do not fire upon them now, as we are forwarding ſome additional fortifications, and probably they might return the fire as they are prepared for the attack, which would greatly annoy us in our labours. 1780 Sept. 23d.

Laſt night, wind E. ſailed the *Sally* and *Betſey*, and another ſhip for *England*; we think they are both diſcovered, as the enemy threw ſeveral rockets from their watch-towers. 25th.

Laſt night ſailed the ſhips *Handelier* and *Nancy*, with ſeveral women and children on board, bound for *England*. A cruizer under the *Barbary* ſhore, fired an alarm gun, and this morning we diſcovered two xebecs had puſhed to the weſtward. 26th.

[*Biſcuit will be delivered to the regiments in lieu of ſoft bread, from Monday next, the 2d of October, until further orders.*] 27th.

This afternoon a reinforcement of three large *Spaniſh* xebecs from the eaſtward, arrived at *Algaziras*. Came in a deſerter from the Walloon 28th.

* A part of fortification between two port-holes.

† A ſloping bank.

1780. Walloon guards; he was dreſſed like a farmer,
Sept. ſays that he was a ſerjeant in the *Spaniſh* ſervice: he is a *German*, ſpeaks *Engliſh* and *French* pretty well; ſeems to be an intelligent man. The manner of his coming to the garriſon occaſions a ſuſpicion of his being a ſpy; the governor has ordered him to be ſtationed at *Windmill-hill*, and not to have the privilege of walking the ſtreets, as the other deſerters have.

29th. This day an additional *Spaniſh* frigate came to an anchor at *Algaziras* from the Weſt.

30th. Wind W. The enemy this day brought into *Algaziras* the ſhip *Sally* and *Betſey*, with her enſign reverſed. She ſailed from here the 25th inſtant. It is not improbable but the other three ſhips have ſhared the ſame fate.

Oct. 1. The *Spaniards*, availing themſelves of the darkneſs of the night, erected a breaſt-work on the iſthmus, between *Landport* Gardens and the *Round Tower*, about 60 feet in length, being within 800 yards of our lines; and about three o'clock this morning they ſet fire to our huts in the Gardens, and came undiſcovered as far as *Bay-ſide* and *Lower-Forbes's* Guard-houſes, where they hung ſeveral bundles of combuſtibles on the paliſades to burn them down, together with machines, conſtructed with twelve tubes, charged with a ball cartridge; to each of which a fuze led, intended thereby to kill the guards in endeavouring to free them from the gates; the fuze did not burn to the powder, and the machines were brought in to our laboratory. The ſentinels poſted there did not obſerve them, owing to the darkneſs of the night, and the roaring of the

the ſea and wind; but as ſoon as the flames appeared, the guards gave them a ſmart fire of muſquetry, which obliged them to retreat. Previous to the affair, the enemy threw a rocket at *Algaziras*, which was anſwered at their lines, when, in an inſtant, the blaze ſpread over every part of the Gardens. They had lain a train from our gates to the ſeveral huts in the Gardens, which ſoon conſumed them: fortunately no material damage was done to our gates, nor any perſon hurt on our ſide. 1780 Oct. 1,

This day the enemy brought in, with their enſigns reverſed, the *Handelier* and *Nancy*, that ſailed the 26th of September. Count *D'Eſtaing* (we ſuppoſe) with ſeveral general officers from the camp, came down to the lines this forenoon. He was ſaluted at *Fort-Negro* with 15 guns on his return to the camp, from whence he proceeded, accompanied with a great many boats, to *Algaziras*, where the ſhipping ſaluted him. The deſerter who came in on the 29th laſt month reports, that the Count was expected in the *Spaniſh* camp when he left it, and added, that ſeveral *French* regiments were preparing to reinforce the *Spaniſh* army next ſpring, though they flattered themſelves at *St. Roque*, that the garriſon would be in their hands much ſooner. 2d.

Laſt night we fired at the enemy's breaſt-work, an incredible number of ſmall ſhells, and ſeveral carcaſſes, but we do not perceive any particular damage done. 3d.

GARRISON

1780
Oct. 3. GARRISON ORDERS.

If the enemy approach towards any of the poſts, and at all times where there is any firing, or any thing extraordinary happens in the night, reports are immediately to be ſent to the Governor, and the Field Officer of the day, and notice given to the adjacent poſts. In caſe of a ſudden attack, upon any of the poſts, the Officer commanding there, will make ſuch a diſpoſition for the defence of his poſt, as the nature of the attack may ſeem to him to require.

4th. About eleven o'clock laſt night, there was a great deal of firing at the entrance of the Bay; and this morning we perceived the enemy in poſſeſſion of a cutter, with a *Spaniſh* enſign above the *Engliſh*.

6th. Our cartel went out this day for priſoners of war, but they only received the women, children, and invalids—the ſeamen were detained. What the *Spaniards* mean by this, is not known: if they mean to ſtarve us into a ſurrender, they ſhould ſend every man they take priſoner; for the more we have to maintain, the ſooner will our proviſions be conſumed.

7th. This day the Town-Major went out on the iſthmus with a parley; the ſentinel at the advanced work, at firſt oppoſed his paſſing, but after ſome deliberation, accompanied him as far as the *Round Tower*, where an officer came to receive the letter, but looked very ſullen, not being pleaſed with having their works examined. It ſeems they have good covering for their men there.

Laſt

Laſt night the enemy raiſed the merlons of their batteries at the lines, about two feet higher. 1780 Oct.

GARRISON ORDERS.

*The men to receive to-morrow, two pound of ſalt fiſh, one ditto of pork, and half a pound of beef.** 8th.

Wind E. This morning early, a ſmall ſettee arrived with ſupplies from *Minorca*, and the Patron having intimated that two others were ſtanding for the Rock, our boats went out with an intention to aſſiſt them, but no ſuch veſſels appeared; however a *Daniſh* dogger, in company with a *Dutch* convoy, having come pretty near *Europa Advance*, which ſhe could not ſee on account of a thick fog; our boats boarded and brought her in. She proves to be from *Malaga*, bound to *Copenhagan*, laden with lemons, oranges, raiſins, &c. which articles being deemed very wholeſome for the troops, eſpecially the ſick, the Governor ordered her cargo to be landed. An attempt was alſo made by our boats upon a *Dutch* ſhip, but on account of the fire from the frigate of the convoy, was compelled to deſiſt. 11th.

Laſt night a ſoldier attempting to deſert to the enemy, from *Middle-hill* Guard, fell from the heights, and was daſhed to pieces at the foot of the Rock. One would imagine it to be madneſs in a perſon to endeavour to eſcape that way, as the precipices of the Rock are ſo ſteep, that the very idea to a rational man, would deter him from ſuch a proceeding. 12th.

* A great part of which is quite rotten, particularly the ſalt fiſh.

1780 Oct. 16th. Two of the enemy's gun-boats have for theſe ſeveral mornings appeared off the *Old Mole-Head* (at long-gun-ſhot diſtance) and row gently along in a line oppoſite the *King's-Baſtion*, as if they were ſounding: they prevent our fiſhing boats from going to their uſual poſts. Yeſterday and this day, a large body of the enemy were buſily employed in levelling a piece of ground on the eaſt ſide of the firſt guard-houſe near *Fort Phillippe*. Our engineers are of opinion they are going to erect a battery there.

18th. The enemy's gun-boats, yeſterday and this day, fired on our fiſhing-boats, and obliged them to come in. It is evident their intention is to prevent the ſupply of fiſh, as well as meat. The ordnance mounted in theſe boats, diſcharge ſhot 26lb. weight, and are of great annoyance. They are able to attack a ſhip of force in a calm.

19th. Wind E. Came in a ſmall veſſel from *Mahon*, with variety of articles. The gun-boats fired ſeveral ſhot at the *St. Fermin* ſloop, which ſhe returned, but the enemy did not do any damage to her or the garriſon.

We have theſe ſeveral nights, at intervals, diſcharged *light balls on the iſthmus, to diſcover if the enemy's parties were working, which the *Spaniſh* ſoldiers often extinguiſh by covering them with ſand.

GARRISON

* Some caſt in lead, and ſome made of ſtrong paper, filled with a compoſition, which while it burns, gives a ſufficient light to obſerve the enemy's motions.

GARRISON ORDERS. 1780

Iſſues of proviſion for the next month, commencing Oct 19
23d of October, and ending 19th Nov. 1780.

MEN PER WEEK.

Beef, one pound; pork, one ditto; peaſe, one pint; oatmeal, one ditto; butter, two ounces and half; wheat, one pint and half; flour 3-4ths of a pound; raiſins, half a pound; kidney beans, one pint; vinegar, quarter of a pint, in lieu of three pints of peaſe, and ſeven ounces butter.

Wind S. E. This morning arrived and anchored under *Europa Advance*, not being able to get round the Point, a ſmall boat with wine and other neceſſaries from *Algiers*. The *Spaniſh* General ſent in a parley this forenoon, wherein it is ſignified that he will not any longer communicate by land, and appointing Flags of Truce to meet in the Bay, whenever neceſſary. 21ſt.

This morning the weather being more calm, our boats brought round the ſettee that anchored under the *Advance* yeſterday. About four this afternoon, three of the enemy's gunboats ſaluted the *Enterprize*, with their 26 pounders, which ſhe returned:—the battery at the *Mole* and *South Baſtion* fired ſeveral 22d.

* The proviſion is getting very unfit for uſe, and the wheat delivered to the troops is of no ſervice, as the inſide is deſtroyed by inſects, and only the integument remaining.

1780 Oct. 27th. rounds at them, which made them take a haſty farewell. Several of their ſhot came on ſhore. This morning we perceived that the enemy had extended their advance work (now termed the *Tower Battery*) ſeveral yards. We fired many ſhells, but without ſucceſs, as moſt of them fell wide of the work; the *Spaniſh* ſoldiers encouraged by this, came out and exhibited tokens of defiance, but a round of well-directed grape ſhot from *Willis*'s, ſoon made them forget their paſtime. They are ſtill employed on the work adjacent to St. *Phillippe*, and have begun to make a battery at *Cabritta Point*, either to protect their cruizers which anchor there, or to annoy our ſhipping paſſing by.

31ſt. We continue to keep up a fire upon the enemy on the iſthmus, which has greatly prevented their carrying on their works; they have not made any addition ſince the 26th. Laſt night two ſoldiers that were ſentinels at *Upper Forbes*'s, got down by means of a rope, and deſerted. The intelligence they may convey to the enemy, will be far from agreeable to their wiſhes: to hear that the *Britiſh* troops are in high ſpirits; that our batteries are in excellent order, and well furniſhed with artillery, will have a greater tendency to diſcouragement than martial animation.

The difficulties ſtill to be encountered, and the impending danger which hang over our heads, ſeem to make no other impreſſion on the ſoldiery, than to ſtimulate them to laborious exertions, and to make them look forward to that fame and glory which is to be acquired. *I remain yours, &c.*

LETTER

LETTER XIII.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

OUR ſituation ſtill remains the ſame; the enemy working, and we firing: Admiral *Barcello*, with an unexampled ſtrictneſs, continues to guard the entrance of the Bay; even neutrals are not allowed to paſs without examination. A ſnow who kept company with a *French* convoy which paſſed to the eaſtward, and made a ſudden puſh for *Europa*, was taken to the ſouthward of the Point, and carried into *Ceuta*. This day we fired ſeveral well directed ſhells into the *Tower Battery*, where we heard men at work. 1780 Nov. 1

Laſt night two ſoldiers deſerted from the garriſon; they got down by a rope at *Zoca* battery, ſtripped, and took to the water. The enemy worked very hard till near twelve o'clock, when they were forced to leave off on account of our fire. 2d.

GARRISON ORDERS.

The regiments to be ſerved with ſoft bread on Monday next.

Laſt night, between ſeven and eight o'clock, the enemy's cruizers fired at a veſſel ſtanding for the Bay, with the wind at weſt; the fire was returned by her, and ſoon after we heard an exploſion of powder, ſo that we conclude, either the veſſel or a *Spaniſh* cruizer blew up. 8th.

1780 Nov. The enemy labour much at their advanced works, and notwithſtanding theſe moon-light nights, and our frequent fire, they have extended their approaches towards the weſtern ſhore. One of the bodies of the two ſoldiers that deſerted the 2d inſtant, was found floating under the line-wall; another corpſe was ſeen taken up on the ſtrand, near Fort St. *Phillippe*.

10th. Laſt night arrived a ſettee, with wine and ſundry articles from *Faro*. The Governor does not permit any of the people that come to the garriſon, either from Eaſt or Weſt, to land, until the Product-maſter has given them inſtructions with reſpect to the intelligence they may bring.

11th. We kept up a heavy cannonade from all the batteries that could bear upon the iſthmus and lines, till after midnight. It is reported that ſeveral carts and working-parties were advancing, but it would be an impoſſibility for the enemy to execute any buſineſs under ſo briſk a fire.

12th. Wind N. W. This morning early, we diſcovered a ſmall ſail under the *Barbary* ſhore—three of the enemy's gun-boats ſet out from *Cabritta Point*, and as ſoon as they came near enough began to fire upon her, which ſhe returned faintly, but kept ſtanding her courſe; the boats afraid to board her, two xebecs ſtretched down upon her, and fired a broadſide or two without doing any execution: the boats continued their fire until ſhe got under the garriſon guns, when our batteries at *Europa* and *Buena-Viſta*, played ſo briſkly, that they found it prudent to chace her no longer. She

proves

proves to be the *Young Sabine*, Captain *M'Clorg*, from *London*, in 18 days, with flour and other neceſſary articles, burthen 200 tons, and ten men. She was greatly damaged, and her ſails almoſt torn to pieces, having received 29 ſhot which ſtruck her in different parts during the action:—She had only one man ſlightly wounded. 1780. Nov.

This morning a *Minorca* ſettee arrived without any interruption, from among ſeveral *Spaniſh* cruizers, who took her to be one of their own veſſels, till they ſaw her ſtand in.

Laſt night came in a ſettee from *Malaga* with fruit only—the *Spaniſh* cruizers convoyed her nearly under our guns, by means of a bribe, as the Patron relates, but we are rather ſuſpicious of her being ſent in by *Barcello*, to view our ſituation and learn the ſtate of the garriſon. 14th.

This morning a *Tartan*, a little to the eaſtward of the Rock, made a ſignal for aſſiſtance, but on account of the current, our boats could not weather round: ſhe got almoſt under *Europa* guns, where ſhe was boarded by a *Spaniſh* lugger's boat, but the crew made their eſcape in their own boat, and came in: ſhe was from *Minorca* with ſupplies. The enemy are working day and night, and we keep firing as briſkly.

Sale Prices of Proviſion, arrived here with Captain M'Clorg:

	£.	s.	d.
Flour, per barrel - -	3	12	0
Cork butter, per pound -	0	2	9
Glouceſter cheeſe, ditto -	0	2	4
Hams, ditto - - -	0	2	4

Bacon,

1780	Bacon, ditto per pound -	0	2	4
Nov.	Coals, per chaldron - -	14	14	0
14th.	Herrings, per barrel - -	4	0	0
	Candles, per pound - -	0	1	4
	Porter, per hogſhead -	6	10	0
	Rum, per gallon - - -	0	18	0

This is a ſpecimen of the prices as they are ſold in lots by auction, but the buyers who retail them again make almoſt cent. per cent. You may therefore judge how thoſe are ſituated who are obliged to purchaſe from the retailers.

About eight this morning, the *Malaga* ſettee received an order to leave the harbour, as the General entertains a doubt of her friendſhip.

15th. Laſt night, between eight and nine o'clock, ſeveral guns were briſkly fired towards the entrance of the bay, and continued firing for the ſpace of half an hour; and this morning we perceived the enemy in poſſeſſion of a brig, which we ſuppoſe to be an *Engliſh* veſſel from the weſtward.

17th. The enemy's gun-boats, yeſterday evening, arranged themſelves in the bay, when on a ſignal from *Fort-Negro*, they opened their fire towards the *Roſia*, the ſhipping off *Ragged-ſtaff*, and *Saluting-Battery*, which was as freely returned by the garriſon and men of war; moſt of their ſhot came on ſhore, but did no conſiderable damage. This attack greatly facilitated their operations on the iſthmus; for while our attention was directed towards their gun-boats, the enemy by land were aſſiduouſly employed in ſtrengthening their advanced works and *Tower-battery*, for at day-break this morning

morning, we perceived ſome thouſands of ſand bags piled on their approaches, which will afford them the greateſt cover from the fire of our batteries on the height. This well-planned operation gained them a conſiderable acquiſition, and will much forward their enſuing labours. 1780 Nov.

Notwithſtanding our heavy fire laſt night, the enemy extended their approaches conſiderably. They have begun forming a trench towards the *Centre-ſtone Guard-Houſe* on the iſthmus, to cover their men paſſing to and from the *Tower-Battery*. 18th.

GARRISON ORDERS.

Proviſions from the 20th November to the 17th December.

MEN PER WEEK.

Beef, one pound and half; Pork, one ditto; Peaſe, one pint; Oatmeal, one ditto; Wheat, one ditto; Flour, 3-4ths pound; Raiſins, half ditto; Rice, half pint; Butter, two ounces and half; Vinegar, 1-4th pint.

☞ *Seven pound Bread ſerved weekly to officers and men.**

The enemy, laſt night, again ſaluted us with a liberal diſcharge of twenty-ſix pounders, directed 19th.

* Though this allowance of Bread may be conſidered as ſufficient, yet it being compoſed of ground Peaſe, Oatmeal, and damaged Wheat, without being ſifted, a ſmall quantity will weigh a pound, nor is it ſatisfying to men who perform conſtant laborious operations.

1780 Nov. rected at our ſhipping—The *New-Mole*, *South*, *King's*, and *Montague's* Baſtions, and Saluting Battery, opened upon them with the greateſt fury, and continued firing upwards of an hour —During the action, a gun unfortunately burſt upon the *King's* Baſtion, which killed the Bombardier of the detachment, and wounded another man—The head and thigh of the former was tore off—ſeveral pieces of the gun flew into the centre of the town, but happily did no miſchief.

GARRISON ORDERS.

20th. *No lights to appear towards the Bay, in any houſe, barrack, guardhouſe, or other building, after ſeven o'clock at night.*

21ſt. The enemy's gun-boats continue their nightly exhibitions—they did not injure us much by their fire laſt night. This day a ſoldier was miſſing, but not from any poſt on duty.

23d. The enemy's gun-boats, laſt night, again viſited us with their uſual generoſity; but moſt of their ſhot fell ſhort, ſo that the garriſon and ſhipping made no return. The enemy, it is imagined, misjudged the diſtance, not ſeeing any lights on ſhore, agreeable to the orders of the 20th inſt.

24th. The enemy continue their regular approaches, ſeveral parties employed in bringing down to their lines, faſcines, gabions, empty caſks, &c. They have begun a paſſage towards the garriſon, and made a ſortee between the ſeven and fourteen gun-batteries: —We annoy them as much as poſſible, with our ſmall ſhells, during their nightly labours, for

for in the day time they do not carry on any viſible work. In ſearching after a ſoldier, who has been miſſing ſince the 21ſt inſt. (ſuppoſed to have deſerted) the ſkeletons of two men were found behind the Rock—A warning to the inconſiderate from attempting to deſert. 1780 Nov.

The gun-boats attacked us again laſt night —the *Enterprize* returned a few ſhot, but the garriſon was ſilent, except towards the iſthmus, where a general diſcharge of ordnance continued during the night. We ſet fire to part of their works, but not effectually; the enemy, however, extended their approaches ſome yards. The work on the ſtrand, near *Fort Phillippe*, is now completely finiſhed, being a battery of 12 guns, conſtructed for the annoyance of our ſhipping, between *Ragged Staff* and *New Mole*.—It appears to be about 12 or 14 feet high, and according to our opinion, well executed. 25th.

The enemy's gun-boats generouſly gave us a few rounds; they fired ſeveral of their ſhot into the town, without doing any miſchief.—one fell into the Product-Maſter's quarters, behind *King*'s baſtion. Our ſhipping, yeſterday, hauled into *New Mole*;—many are of opinion they have ſome intimation of a ſpeedy attack, and others, that it is to prevent being ſo much expoſed to the enemy's gun-boats. The *Spaniſh* approaches were much forwarded laſt night; the centinels at the *Tower* battery yeſterday, fired ſeveral muſquet ſhot at our gardeners, outſide of *Landport*: they have plundered the gardens every night of late, but now, in the moſt audacious manner, they come 26th.

1780 Nov. come forward in the day time to gather vegetables—We occaſionally fire wall-pieces, grape-ſhot, and ſmall ſhells, but they ſeem ſo reſolute, that all our efforts to make them deſiſt cannot intimidate them. Several men have been ſeen to fall at the *Tower* battery, but we have not been fortunate enough to hit any of thoſe that come forward—the walls of the wells in the gardens afford them excellent ſhelter.

29th. The *Daniſh* dogger that our boats brought in on the 11th of October ſailed yeſterday for *St. Ubes*:—the *Spaniſh* cruizers picked her up, and carried her into *Algaziras*. The enemy's approaches are forwarding with an incredible rapidity. General *Alvarez*, who commands in the camp, viſits the lines and forts once or twice a week—we know him by his uniform and ſuite, on which occaſion we never fire into the *Spaniſh* lines—this is being politically complimentary.

30th. This morning came in a *Spaniſh* polacre, with ſhoes, leather, ſilk, &c. on board—ſhe was taken to the eaſtward by the *Anglicana* privateer which is expected hourly.

Yeſterday the remaining *Spaniſh* frigates, that were at *Algaziras*, ſailed to the weſt, ſo that the only ſhip of force which occupies that place is *Barcello*'s xebec.—Two fireſhips have been brought out of *Guadaranque* river, and anchored at the *Orange Grove*; ſeveral more are getting ready in the rivers, and ſome at *Algaziras*. It is probable that the enemy have received an account of our fleet being on its paſſage, and are preparing for their deſtruction.

I remain Your's, &c.

LETTER

LETTER XIV.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

AMIDST impending dangers, heavy labours, perpetual alarms, conſtant watchings, lively hopes and expectations, I ſnatch a few moments to devote to your ſervice. The period for the celebration of immortal VICTORY or DEATH, hourly awaits us, and the glories and pomp of battle, in ſolemn ſteps approach: martial honours excite to valour, and the conſideration of *Britain's* cauſe invigorates each boſom to repulſe the combined arms of imperious *Gaul*, and proud *Iberia*, which glitter and adorn the *Spaniſh* plains.— 1780 Dec. 1.

Although the god of war with aſpect grim,
Exulting, ſtrides around our batt'ring Rock.
And ſlaughter, with voracious jaws extended,
Waits with impatience for the long-wiſh'd prey.

This forenoon ſignals were made at the *Spaniſh* watch-towers of an enemy being to the eaſtward—a ſhip appeared ſtanding for the rock, chaſed by two xebecs; two gun boats puſhed out from *Algaziras*, and ſoon got near her—a fire immediately commenced between them, and continued till ſhe came under *Europa* guns, without doing each other much damage. She proves to be the *Anglicana* letter of marque, of 26 guns, and 80 men, from *Smyrna* laden with ſilk. A ſmall xebec was carried into *Algaziras*, with a *Spaniſh* enſign above

1780. Dec. above the *Engliſh*, many are of opinion that ſhe was a *Minorca* veſſel bound for this place.

3d. Yeſterday evening we had a violent ſtorm of hail, rain, lightning and thunder—it did not reach the *Spaniſh* camp, or they muſt have ſuffered conſiderably. Arrived a *Spaniſh* frigate at *Algaziras*.

4th. Wind. E. Laſt night, with a ſtiff breeze, the *Anglicana* ſailed from hence, on her paſſage to *England*.—The Governor forwarded an expreſs by her, and embarked a few worn-out ſoldiers.

5th. The weather having proved rainy and boiſterous theſe three days paſt, the enemy have not been able to execute any work on the iſthmus, nor has any of their cruizers made their appearance in the Bay. The Governor has ordered the pavement of the ſtreets to be dug up as far as *Southport*: one hundred and ten inhabitants, (beſides the ſoldiery) are employed in this work, viz. ſixty Roman Catholics, thirty Jews, and twenty Britiſh; the ſtones are thrown over the line wall. The intention of this is, to prevent the havock that would enſue from the exploſion of the enemy's ſhells, whenever they open from their batteries, as the weight with which they fall buries them under the ſurface of the ground, and when they burſt, they ſcatter whatever is near them for ſeventy or eighty yards around.

8th. The enemy worked very hard laſt night, and greatly forwarded their approaches:—This morning they fired very briſk on our gardeners, who were forced to retire. A frigate from the weſt has anchored at the other ſide.

We

We fired this morning by way of experiment from *Old Mole Head*, ſix ten-inch ſhells out of howitzers, one of which penetrated into the centre of the *Tower* battery, which ſet it on fire, but the *Spaniards* very ſoon extinguiſhed it. 1780 Dec. 9th.

The wind blowing ſtrong E. and the ſea too rough for the gun-boats, three ſettees arrived from *Minorca*, and a brig from *Leghorn*, with wine and other neceſſaries. None of the *Spaniſh* cruizers attempted to ſtir.

The enemy's covered-way is greatly extended, a few nights more will bring it home to the *Tower* battery. The garriſon keep a conſtant cannonade on the *Spaniſh* working parties from the heights of *Willis*'s.

The enemy's covered-way is not yet compleated, owing to the rough and rainy weather; they have extended it very near the Eaſt line of their advanced work. This morning five pieces of cannon were laid in the ſand behind the *Old Mole*. They have an elevation of 45 degrees, and it is imagined they will ſend ſhot (red hot) into the enemy's encampment and Artillery Park. 14th.

Laſt night the enemy compleated their covered-way: they have brought it cloſe home to the Eaſt angle of the *Tower* battery—The weather having proved calm, the *Spaniſh* cruizers again cover the face of the Bay. 15th.

The enemy laſt night began another line of approach, extending from the left of the *Tower* battery, towards the *Centre-Stone* Guard-houſe. 16th.

GARRISON

1780
Dec. 16th. GARRISON ORDERS.

The iſſues of proviſion for the next month, to be the ſame as laſt, except that only one week's oat-meal, at a pint each ration, can be ſpared, to leave the uſual ſupply for the hoſpitals.

17th. The enemy extended their approaches ſome yards laſt night, and we, with our uſual liberality of ſhot and ſhells, repaid their labours.—Several ſettees, and polacres arrived from the Eaſt at *Algaziras*.

21ſt. Wind W. Laſt night a firing was heard from the Offing for near an hour, which proved to be the *Speed-well* cutter, with diſpatches from *England*, engaging a xebec, which was under the neceſſity of putting into *Ceuta* to repair her damages; the *Speed-well* got ſafe into *New Mole*, the intelligence brought by her is at preſent kept ſecret.

23d. Arrived the *Hannah* privateer, from *England*, with cheeſe, beef, pork, butter, &c.—a very good ſupply. It muſt ſenſibly aggravate Admiral *Barcello*, notwithſtanding the attention and alertneſs of his armed boats and cruziers, that veſſels do frequently drop in here.

25th. This day the deſerter that came in the 28th of September was ſent to the *Provoſt*, he being, from indubitable facts, proved a ſpy. Several writings were found in his poſſeſſion, inſcribed to a *Spaniſh* officer, together with a plan of the garriſon ſewed up in a coarſe cloth. Among other paſſages he ſays, that, "Between the *Advance* and *Dead-man's hole*, the ſhore is ſo bold, that they may bring their ſhipping cloſe

to

to the Rocks, and land the men from off the yards; and, after this is done, to take poſſeſſion of the travelling pieces of cannon on *Wind-mill-hill*, draw them to the *South-parade*, and cannonade the town." Came in laſt night, the ſnow *Kitty* and *Polly* from *Liverpool*, with butter, flour, cheeſe, and potatoes; the latter ſells at ſix rails per pound. Deſerted a ſoldier in the night. 1780 Dec.

This day two *Mooriſh* veſſels were carried into *Algaziras*; it is conjectured they were deſtined for this place. 29th.

This forenoon a ſettee belonging to the enemy was becalmed off *Europa*, and our boats went out and boarded her—the crew eſcaped.—She had two pigs and ſome empty caſks on board. It is ſome time ſince we had the ſatisfaction to hoiſt the *Engliſh* colours over the *Spaniſh*. 30th.

This morning a *Tartan*, laden with brandy and ſugar, came in from *Minorca*. She brings no particular intelligence. Laſt night a ſerjeant deſerted from the back of the Rock. No reaſon can be aſſigned for his committing this diſgraceful act. 31ſt.

The enemy keep attentively at work, and forward their approaches and covered retreats with the utmoſt ſpirit; their loſs of men does not diſcourage their operations—they ſeem determined to capture *Gibraltar*. Probably the next year will decide the conteſt. If they ſhould be ſucceſsful, and take the garriſon, it will be a victory worthy of record; but we have not the leaſt idea of this nature, our bat-

1780 teries are ſo well mounted with heavy ordnance,
Dec. and manned with *Britons*, that the name of
31ſt. being conquered only excites a deſire for action.

I am,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately yours, &c.

LETTER XV.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

1781 OUR proſpect is but gloomy; the enemy
Jan. are very buſy, and are ſtill forwarding
10th. works of annoyance. It is conjectured as ſoon as the bomb-battery on the iſthmus is completed, that the action will begin; which I doubt not will terminate with glory to *Great Britain.*

This day, under flag of truce, the two *Mooriſh* gallies, that arrived the 29th of laſt month, were conducted from *Algaziras* to this place; they have brought Conſul *Logie*, and the *Britiſh* families and Jews from *Tangier*. We learn that hoſtilities are commenced by the *Barbarians* againſt us, and that the Emperor of *Morocco* has ſold the ports of *Tangier* and *Tetuan* to his Catholic Majeſty; by this means the enemy conclude *Gibraltar* muſt be their own, for that famine will compel us to capitulate.—I hope their expectations will be fruſtrated, and that,

that, in ſpite of the united efforts of our foes, 1781
the *Britiſh* enſigns will continue flying here. Jan.

GARRISON ORDERS.

The centries on the ſea-line are not to ſuffer any 14th.
perſon to land under any part of the line-wall, or upon the rocks towards the ſouthward, or to remain on ſhore there after firſt gun-fire, but to fire upon whoever they may diſcover, either on ſhore, or attempting to land after that time.

Laſt night a *Spaniſh* frigate was drove by a 15th.
ſtorm under our walls, the garriſon took her for an *Engliſh* veſſel, therefore did not fire upon her; a heavy rain and a thick haze coming on ſhe eſcaped, and at day break we perceived her at anchor near the *Orange Grove*, in diſtreſs. The two *Mooriſh* gallies ſailed from hence to the weſt.

GARRISON ORDERS.

Ration of proviſions from the 15th of January, till the 11th of February.

MEN PER WEEK.

Bread, ſeven pounds; Beef, one ditto; Pork, one ditto; Peaſe, one pint; Butter, two ounces and a half; Cheeſe, ſix ounces, in lieu of half a pound of Beef. The ſmall articles the ſame as laſt month.

Wind W. This morning arrived a brig 16th.
from the *Madeira Iſlands* with 80 pipes of wine. She was drove from her moorings in a ſtorm,

1781 with only ſix hands on board—Her cargo will
Jan. prove a uſeful ſupply, and it is much wanted.
18. Wind W. S. W. Laſt night came in the *Tartar* privateer, from *England*, with diſpatches from Government—ſhe had a paſſage of ſixteen days, and brings the intelligence that hoſtilities are commenced againſt the *Dutch*.—She had the good fortune to capture four *Dutch* veſſels on her paſſage, and carried them into *Portugal*. The *Enterprize* frigate lying in the *New Mole* fired ſeveral ſhot at her, ſuſpecting her to be an enemy, as ſhe ſtood towards the bottom of the Bay, our former anchorage, but on her hailing in *Engliſh* the firing ceaſed—happily no damage was done.

General *Eliott* has ordered letters of marque to be iſſued againſt the *Dutch*, in the manner of thoſe granted againſt *France* and *Spain*. The garriſon received the above account with univerſal ſatisfaction; the officers and every individual ſeemingly felt a martial pleaſure upon the occaſion. Whether from it being the anniverſary of Her Majeſty's birth-day, or from this piece of information, the royal ſtandard was hoiſted, and a rejoicing obſerved by the garriſon, ſhipping, boats, &c. by a diſcharge of cannon at one o'clock—the ſeamen manned and cheered, and the land-batteries ſaluted the enemy's works with ball.

20th. This morning, ſoon after day-break, the ſerjeant commanding the *Bay-ſide* (a detached guard) jumped over the palliſadoes, and walked gently on towards the enemy's works, ſeemingly undetermined, whether to go forward, or return to the garriſon. The ſentinels

diſcharged

diſcharged their muſquetry, but it is uncertain whether any of them took effect. 1781 Jan.

Laſt night, with a ſtiff breeze at N. W. the *Young Sabine* and the *Hannah* privateers ſailed for *Minorca*. Admiral *Barcello* having miſſed them this morning, detached a frigate to the eaſt, under all the ſail ſhe could croud, but it is not probable ſhe will be able to come up with them, they being near twelve hours ſail ahead. 23d.

Yeſterday evening, a ſoldier deſerted, ſuppoſed from the heights of the Rock. 25th.

Wind S. E. Arrived the *Tartar*, a *French* prize, of 26 guns, from *Leghorn*, with wine, oil, brandy, &c. She picked up at ſea the *Brilliant*'s long-boat, which makes us imagine that frigate was forced to the eaſtward, with a ſtrong northerly wind. 28th.

Wind E. Laſt night ſailed the *Tartar* privateer, that arrived here on the 18th inſt. The enemy threw ſeveral rockets from their towers, and this morning we obſerved a xebec returning from the Gut without her prey. On the land ſide the enemy continue their labours, nor are we negligent in annoying them. Three ſoldiers are miſſing, ſuppoſed to have deſerted. 29th.

Wind S. E. Arrived a large ſettee and a *Tartan* from *Minorca*, with wine, &c. They bring word of the *Brilliant*'s ſafe arrival in that port. 30th.

Wind S. W. Yeſterday evening ſailed a brig from hence, bound to *Mahon* with ſupplies. The enemy extended their approaches about five yards laſt night, and threw up ſeveral heaps of ſand.—Some infantry have marched into their camp, reported to have landed at *Cadiz*. 31ſt.

1781 Jan. *Cadiz.* Admiral *Barcello* remains at anchor, but his cruizers frequently come over to peep at our works, and obſerve the ſituation of our navy.

I am,

Dear Brother,

Your's &c.

LETTER XVI.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

Feb. 1. NOTWITHSTANDING every effort, and the moſt ſtudious inventions of annoyance that poſſibly could be adopted or executed, we have hitherto found ourſelves inadequate to retard the progreſs of the enemy's operations; and to do juſtice to our aſſailants, they have invariably, from the period of their firſt labours, to the preſent forwardneſs of their approaches, ſhewn a martial ſpirit, and undaunted reſolution.

The enemy extended another branch of their approach laſt night, compoſed of faſcines and ſand-bags. We fired in the courſe of an hour 500 round of ſhot and ſhells. This morning a ſoldier deſerted from the garriſon.

2d. Our men of war's boats went round to the back of the Rock this forenoon, where they found the bodies of the ſoldier miſſing yeſterday,

day, and the ſerjeant mentioned 31ſt of December laſt, both in a ſhattered condition. It is aſtoniſhing, notwithſtanding the tremendous inſtances ſo frequently exhibited, they have not ſufficient terror, to prevent men from endeavouring to eſcape to the enemy. 1781 Feb.

This morning at day break, came in a deſerter from the enemy:—He ſays, "That the *Spaniſh* General has received an order to recall the working parties, in conſequence of a propoſition made to the Court of *Great Britain*, of ſix millions of money, and a free trade for the garriſon." There is not any reliance placed upon his intelligence. If ſuch an order had been received, General *Alvarez* would have communicated it to the Garriſon. The working parties are not very numerous, or elſe they keep much under cover. 8th.

Wind E. Arrived the *Saliſbury* privateer, from *Minorca*—A large xebec, and ſeveral gallies endeavoured to ſlip between her and the land. 11th.

The enemy appear to be in motion on the oppoſite ſide: ſeveral ſignals hung out from their watch towers, and their cruizers are returning to the bay. We are in hopes that the Britiſh fleet are not far off. 14th.

Wind N. W. Paſſed by about thirty ſail of neutrals; there being a thick haze we could not perceive whether they were ſhips of force. We ſuppoſe the ſignals made yeſterday was occaſioned by their appearance off the coaſt, 15th.

GARRISON ORDERS.

Ration of Proviſion from Feb. 12, *to March* 11, 1781.

MEN.

1781 Feb. MEN PER WEEK.

Bread, ſeven pounds; Beef, one ditto; Pork, one ditto; Butter, two ounces and half; Oil ¼ pint; Cheeſe, ſix ounces; peaſe one pint; Beans one ditto; Wheat, one ditto; Rice, ſix ounces; Raiſins, ſix ounces.

18th. Wind ſtrong E. About 11 o'clock laſt night, the *Saliſbury* got under ſail:—None of the enemy's cruizers were out on account of the ſtiff breeze and rough ſea.

19th. This afternoon a brig arrived from *Minorca*, in four days and a half, with flour, wine, ſugar, and brandy. Two xebecs in vain attempted to approach her as the wind blew very ſtrong from the land. She brings intelligence that the *French* had blockaded *Minorca*.

21ſt. Laſt night came in another brig from *Minorca*.—It muſt greatly chagrin Admiral *Barcelo* to view the ſhipping drop in ſo providentially, and he incapable of detaching his cruizers to the eaſt.—Very ſtiff breezes have continued ſince the 18th inſt. at E. and N. E.

27th. Laſt night a brig with four *Genoeſe* on board ſlipped over from *Algaziras* with a few trifling articles. The manner of her coming, and the ſmallneſs of her cargo, rather excites a ſuſpicion. The Governor, ever attentive to the ſafety of the garriſon, and doubting the real intention of the crew, has ordered a guard to mount on board her daily, until the affair is more thoroughly inveſtigated.

28th. Laſt night under a very briſk fire, the enemy threw up a great quantity of ſand upon their faſcine

faſcine works. It is ſuppoſed their approaches are about twenty feet high. We this day directed our fire to the weſt entrance of the lines, as many covered carts were obſerved paſſing there. 1781 Feb. 28th.

This month has cloſed without indulging our expectations of ſucceſs, but the events of it do not diſpirit our hopes of happier conſequences to our future efforts.

I am, &c.

LETTER XVII.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

ART and Ingenuity are with us ſo perverted from all benevolent exertions, that one would be induced to ſuppoſe from the deſtructive nature of our experiments, that the ruin of man was the ſole purpoſe of their efforts. The over-ruling neceſſity which orders our preparations for war and havock, cannot rob the mind of its diſtreſſes on contemplating the lamentable occaſions which render indiſpenſible Quadrants, Spirit-levels, and inſtruments of various forms and machinery, which adorn the batteries, for the more exact and certain method of killing. Every one ſeems anxious to find out the ſafeſt, quickeſt, and ſureſt method of diſpatch, in the elevation and depreſſion of the ordnance. I ſuppoſe in a few weeks more practice, they will be ſo expert Mar. 5

1781. pert in levelling a gun, that ſhould a *Spainard*
Mar. 5 raiſe his head above the epaulement,* it will be immediately ſevered from his ſhoulders; for an emulative ſpirit has diſperſed itſelf to ſuch a pitch among our artiſts, that almoſt every day produces ſome new contrivance for the promotion of ſlaughter!

Wind E. Laſt night arrived a ſettee from *Minorca*, with ſundry uſeful articles for the garriſon; the Patron relates, that three *French* frigates are cruizing off the harbour to prevent ſuccours going in or coming out of that place.

7th. This morning, a little before the new guard came to relieve the old *Landport* guard, a ſoldier on duty there jumped over the palliſadoes near the gate, and ran off. The ſeveral guards fired 1143 muſquet ſhot at him, beſide grape. He entered the *Spaniſh* lines with every demonſtration of joy, waving his hat.

9th. Yeſterday and this day we had ſeveral hours artillery-practice on the batteries at the enemy's works; with the new-invented Quadrants and Levels:—the ordnance was well directed—much ſucceſs is promiſed from the merit of the ſeveral inſtruments under trial. The enemy, with great earneſtneſs, became ſpectators from Forts St. *Phillippe* and *Barbary*, as our guns only played upon the advance-works on the iſthmus.

GARRISON ORDERS.

11th. *The rations of proviſions from the 12th of March to the 8th of April, the ſame as laſt month, except that no wheat will be delivered.*

Wind

* A part of fortification, which covers breaſt-high, compoſed of earth, gabions, &c.

Wind E. Came in a polacre and a *Tartan*, from *Minorca*, with wine and brandy; the latter received ſeveral ſhot from one of the enemy's galleys that endeavoured to cut her off.—The *French* continue the inveſtment of *Minorca*. 1781 March 16th.

The enemy on the land ſide are attentive to their operations, which we endeavour to check by a ſmart fire; we ſuppoſe they are mounting ordnance in their advanced works. Yeſterday a ſoldier deſerted from the garriſon.

Arrived a *Tuſcan* polacre, and the *Tartar* cutter from *Minorca*, with brandy and carravances.—A xebec ſtood over from *Ceuta*, but too late to prevent their entrance. 18th.

Yeſterday evening, the *Tuſcan* polacre ſailed on her paſſage to *Liſbon*, but the enemy took her in the night, and this morning carried her into *Algaziras*. 22d.

Came in a half-xebec (a prize) taken by one of the *Minorca* privateers. She ſays the *French* frigates ſo cloſely watch the entrance into that harbour, that it is almoſt impoſſible for a veſſel coming in or going out, to eſcape. The *French* naval force is too powerful at *Mahon* for the *Britiſh* to attack them. 26th.

Laſt night (Wind W. N. W.) the *Enterprize* frigate ſailed from hence on her paſſage to *Minorca*. The repeated intelligence of the *French* having blockaded that Port, occaſioned her departure, and we flatter ourſelves when ſhe arrives there, our force will be equal to theirs; the *Brilliant* and *Minorca* frigates being already on that ſtation.—This forenoon, a brig, half-bay over, was taken by the enemy's cruizers; the crew, being nine in number, eſcaped in a boat. 29th.

1781 March boat: they mention, "That the *British* fleet had twice put to ſea, but was forced to return, owing to bad weather, and contrary winds." They brought ſome poultry in their boat, which will afford them a preſent ſupply; the fowls ſold for four dollars each, equal to twelve ſhillings and nine-pence; pigeons, three dollars per couple, equal to nine ſhillings and ſeven-pence; ducks, eight dollars four rials per couple, equal to one pound ſix-ſhillings and ſix-pence. Every ſpecies of proviſion is ſold at the ſame rate, and moſt of the ſalt meat in the garriſon is quite rotten.

I am,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately Yours.

LETTER XVIII.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

April 3d. THE garriſon are noiſy with tumultuous joy, occaſioned by the arrival of a cutter laſt night from the Weſt: ſhe brings the captivating and enlivening intelligence of the *Britiſh* fleet, for the relief of the garriſon, being on their paſſage. We ſeem to be another people—no depreſſion of ſpirits—every countenance is adorned with ſatisfactory ſmiles—a ſocial greeting of friends and acquaintances, congratulatory

congratulatory of the happineſs about to be experienced. 1781 April

This morning two fire-ſhips were removed from *Algaziras* towards *Cabritta-Point*, intended by the enemy to run in among our fleet: three others are at *Orange Grove*, and ſeveral ready in the rivers. We are apprehenſive of their being a great annoyance to our ſhipping.

Laſt night ſailed the St. *Fermin* ſloop, the *Brilliant*'s tender, and a ſettee, for *Minorca*. Two xebecs immediately put to ſea in purſuit of them, with a fine breeze at Weſt. The enemy are very buſy on the oppoſite ſide, in getting their fire-ſhips out of the rivers. 4th.

This evening four armed boats, compoſed of a detachment of five men from each regiment, under the command of a naval officer, proceeded from the *New Mole* on an expedition, to cut out the two fire-ſhips which lay at anchor under *Cabritta*. It continued rainy and cloudy till they had got within a mile of them, when, on a ſudden, the clouds diſperſed, and Luna reflected ſo great a light, that they were under the neceſſity of returning without accompliſhing the buſineſs, the enemy having diſcovered the boats, and made a poſition of defence. 6th.

Rations of proviſions from the 9th of April to the 6th of May.

MEN PER WEEK.

Beef, thirteen ounces; pork, thirteen ditto; butter, two ounces and half; raiſins, twelve ounces; peaſe, half pint; beans, one ditto; wheat, one ditto; rice, four ounces; oil, 1-4th pint.

Bread

1781 April — *Bread iſſued to officers and men one pound and half every two days.*

8th. Wind W. About eleven this forenoon, we diſcovered a ſmall ſail under the *Barbary* ſhore: about two o'clock the enemy's ſquadron weighed and ſtood for her, conſiſting of one xebec, one galley, one cutter, and 15 large gun-boats, (mounting twenty-ſix pounders;) as ſoon as they had reached her, they opened furiouſly both with round and grape ſhot, which ſhe as briſkly and heroically returned; broadſide for broadſide continued till ſhe got under cover of the guns, when ſhe received repeated and loud huzzas from the garriſon. It is remarkable, notwithſtanding the heavy cannonade, not a man was killed, and only a few wounded. She proves to be the *Eagle* cutter from *Port-Glaſgow*, but brings no account about the fleet.

12th. Laſt night, between eleven and twelve o'clock, arrived off the *Mole Head*, the *Kite* cutter; ſhe being challenged by the officer of the *Mole* guard, loudly anſwered, "From the fleet," which immediately ſpread like wild-fire throughout the garriſon; Morpheus reſigned his ſovereignty, and ſlumber was forgotten; each found ſufficient employ and ſatisfaction in converſing on the intereſting ſubject.——We conjectured in the evening the *Britiſh* fleet was near at hand, as the enemy's towers and coaſt were greatly illuminated, and a number of rockets thrown up at *Cabritta*. At ſix this morning the fleet appeared in the *Offing*, arranged in admirable order, ſtanding for the garriſon, with a gentle breeze at S.W.

A ſhout

A ſhout of joy inſtantly enſued from every corner, battery, and height, on the diſcovery. About nine, eighteen of the enemy's gun-boats failed out from *Algaziras*, but kept pretty well under the land: at ten they began a briſk fire from the boats and battery at the point, upon our ſhipping; two frigates bore down upon them, and played ſo warmly, that the enemy made to land. The battery at *Sandy Bay*, and the Iſland at *Algaziras* (mounted with forty-two pounders) endeavoured to annoy our ſhipping, but to little purpoſe, as moſt of their ſhot fell wide. One ſhip has juſt dropt anchor.—A call to arms prevents my further writing; the enemy have opened all their batteries on the town; confuſion and conſternation are every where to be ſeen!—Adieu, dear brother, I muſt haſten to the alarm poſt. 1781 April 12th.

* * * * * * * *

Six o'clock in the evening.

The neceſſary diſpoſitions having been made by the Governor, for the defence of the garriſon, I again reſume the ſubject on the ſeveral tranſactions of the day, (during the few moments I am unemployed from duty) and ſhall endeavour as far as the noiſe of rattling cannon and burſting ſhells will permit, to give you a faint deſcription of the occurrences which took place about a quarter before twelve this forenoon, when the enemy perceived the men of war had paſſed the Gut, and a few entered

1781 April 12th. tered the Bay, they opened all their batteries, (in the lines and on the iſthmus) with ſhot and ſhells on the town. The bombardment commenced on a ſignal from the *Orange Grove*, whilſt the inhabitants and ſoldiery were amuſing themſelves with the aſpection of the ſhipping. This ſudden alarm ſpread univerſal conſternation, and the joy predicted on the arrival of the fleet was now turned into an undeſcribable ſorrow.—The ſoldiers haſtened to their poſts, and the inhabitants to their houſes, many of which were inſtantly in flames from the effect of the enemy's ſhells: the obviouſneſs of grief on their part is feelingly expreſſive;—their property conſuming with rapidity—the uncertainty of ſelf-preſervation—the anxiety for the ſafety of their relatives and deareſt kindred—the irretrivability of recovering the greater part of their valuables; add to this, the mangled ſpectacles of ſome already fallen from the cannonade, impelled them to fly from ſuch a ſcene of horror, and if poſſible, ſecure a place of ſhelter, however indifferent: precipitation marked their footſteps, and the confluence of men, women, and children at *South-port Gate*, prevented a conſiderable time, numbers from obtaining a ſpeedy paſſage, which when they accompliſhed, they fled in crowds to the heights of the Rock, out of the reach of the enemy's land fire. Here appalled, they mingled together indiſcriminately, within ſight of their former dwellings, now in a ſtate of incineration—Commiſerable ſituation!—ſhells explode over their heads—cries echo—and vivid flaſhes pierce the clouds of ſmoke that cover devaſtation;

tion; the thunder of the cannon reverberate 1781
dreadfully to their ears, and every concuſſion April
renews their trepidation. 12th.

I muſt now proceed to give you ſome account of the caſualties collected. A ſettee was ſunk by a ſhell lying at the *Tanks*, near the *New Mole*—the enemy's ſhot drop but ſhort of that place. A ſhell which exploded on the hill, wounded Lieutenant *Boag* of the Royal Artillery. A ſerjeant and ſeveral men wounded in the lines; the ſerjeant's hand was torn off by the violence of the ſhell:—three men wounded at *Grand Battery*; two at *South Port*; three men killed in *King's Lines*, and one at *South-Port*, by a piece of a ſhell that burſt in the air. A ſhell which entered a houſe in *Southport-ſtreet*, in the exploſion blew a *Genoeſe* woman out of a window, but fortunately ſhe only received a bruize by the fall.

The enemy are endeavouring to burn our ſhipping, by throwing ſhells with a view to reach the *New Mole*. The greater part of the *Engliſh* men of war, keep cruizing off *Europa*. Admirals *Darby*, *Digby*, and *Roſs* are in the Bay. Our town appears from the heights at the *Southward*, to be inſuppreſſively on fire, and the fulgent blaze truly horrific:—the total demolition of the houſes is thought to be inevitable. We are prepared for the enemy, ſhould they attempt during the night to ſtorm the garriſon. Detachments having been ſent to reinforce the ſeveral guards, and additional picquets mounted in the town diſtricts. 13th.

The tremenduouſneſs of the cannonade laſt night (ſupported with the utmoſt vivacity on both ſides) and which ſtill continues with una-

1781 bating rage, exhibited a truly grand and aw-
April ful ſpectacle of war. The varied repercuſſions
13th. from the Rock, of exploding ſhells, and the reiterated ſound of cannon and mortars, were ſuch as ſtunned the air, whilſt the eye traced with pain the ravaging effect, and gazed with anguiſh on the continual flaſh of ordnance, ſpreading deſolation in every direction.

The town is deſerted by all but the ſoldiery, who amidſt the roar of guns, mortars, howitzers, and ſhells, are buſy in retorting on the enemy the woes of war. One minute a ſhot batters a houſe about your ears, and the next a ſhell drops at your feet; here you lie proſtrate, waiting the mercy of the exploſion; if you eſcape unhurt, you are perfectly ſtunned, and almoſt ſuffocated with an intolerable ſtench of powder and ſulphur. On every hand ſlaughtered objects lie before you, harrowing up the tender feelings of the ſoul: one loſes an arm or leg, another cut through the body, a third is blown to pieces with the burſting of a ſhell: indulgent parents lamenting the loſs of ſons, and women and children for huſbands and fathers. Here we behold paſſions unfeigned, grief without mockery, and diſtreſs without a veil.

A detachment is ordered to march, to reinforce a part of the works conſidered too weak for a ſtrong attack, or to relieve another who have ſtood twenty-four hours facing an inveterate foe; probably before they reach the poſt my comrade falls by my ſide, my acquaintance receives a wound, and my beſt of friends loſes the arm that was ever ready to cheriſh and ſupply.

No

No one is exempt from duty: a huſband is called upon; the ſervice demands his immediate preſence, nor dare he ſtay to take his farewell by imprinting an affectionate kiſs; the thundering *Mars*, envious of his felicity, raiſes the javelin for deſtruction, and levels his commiſerating partner while he is abſent; not ſatisfied with lopping off ſo material a branch of happineſs, but extends his deciſive commands over their tender offspring. On his return—O ſenſibility! what a ravaging ſcene is preſented to his view! let imagination conceive;—a wife that ſoothed his every uneaſineſs, and ſoftened the rigours of his fate, alas! no more—his dear beloved children, that prattled with a thouſand innocent and engageing ſmiles, and liſped forth their duteous accents, that tended to diſſipate the heart-corroding cares of life, and promiſing to be a comfort in his aged days, are now reduced to a lifeleſs lump of clay. Will not his heart break forth in exclamation, '*O my beloved wife!* '*my charming ſon! my amiable daughter! not ſuf-* '*fered to kiſs thoſe lips while warm, nor to preſs* '*you to a boſom to which you was ever dear!*' 1781. April 13th.

What inexpreſſible anguiſh muſt the performers feel in the trying ſcenes and tragical exhibitions, delineated with the moſt deſcriptive wretchedneſs and miſery. This muſt move pity in every heart, if not ſteeled againſt every humanizing principle.

I cannot authentically learn the number already fallen by the cannonade;—various are the conjectures. An account is juſt arrived, that Surgeon *Chiſholm* of the 56th regiment, has loſt a leg by a ſhot, and that *Lieutenant Bridworth*

1781 April 13th. *Budworth* of the 72d. regiment, is wounded. Two ſoldiers, and a boy of a wine-houſe, this inſtant killed at *Southport*, by the exploſion of a ſhell. The road from that gate to the naval hoſpital, is occupied by men carrying wounded ſoldiers from the batteries. Report ſays, ſeveral perſons are killed in town. The regiments not lodged in bomb proofs in the town, are to receive camp equipage, and remove to their quarters marked out on the riſing ground from *South Barracks* towards *Windmill-hill*.

14th. The fire from the enemy is computed at about three thouſand ſhot and ſhells every twenty-four hours, which probably ſurpaſſes the heavieſt cannonade recorded in hiſtory. The damage done to the town is beyond credibility; the greateſt part of the houſes and effects conſumed, and others blown into ruins by the burſting of the ſhells.

This forenoon, eleven *Spaniſh* gun-boats began a fire upon our ſhipping, and carried away the foretop-maſt of one of the men of war. Theſe ſquadrons of gun-boats (each mounted with a twenty-ſix pounder) contribute their quota to render our days and nights infinitely miſerable and alarming, marking the ſeveral encampments for proſcription, ſeizing on our retired hours like nightly robbers, filling the mind with the moſt agonizing apprehenſion, awakening the garriſon from the repoſe wearied nature requires; and before you can ſcarce open your eyes, and prepare for the alarm, death ſtares you in the face, or you feel a precious limb mangled, or haſtily torn away.

The frequent interſperſions of ſhot, and the ignition occaſioned by the enemy's ſhells, which

which inceſſantly are poured on every part of the Rock within their reach, is beyond deſcription dreadful. No place of ſafety! Not one ſpot, but theſe unfriendly intruders viſit, ſpreading mortality in their circumrotation; vollies of ſhocking miſery are hourly diſcharged, and the wearied ſoldiery, though overpowered with fatigue from continual military toil, are much prevented from enjoying the few hours allotted for repoſe, which a ſmall part of the garriſon only are exempted from duty, in the daily proportion of guards, picquets, &c. Every one finds an intereſt in watching—not one moment's ſecurity. If ſlumber ſhould cloſe your eyes, probably they might not view the enlivening rays of Aurora in the morning. 1781. April 14th.

The wounded men are numerouſly carrying from the town diſtricts to the Naval Hoſpital. Almoſt every hour furniſhes a new inſtance of the cruelty of war. One man has now paſſed me in a mangled ſituation too dreadful to deſcribe. Enſign *Martin* of the 39th regiment is wounded, but not dangerouſly. A few ſoldiers killed this day, and a great number wounded.

The *Britiſh* fleet have not yet come to anchor, but keep hovering round the Rock. The enemy ſupport the cannonade with unremitting ſpirit, and their artillery ſeem to direct their ſole attention to the conſuming of the town. The damage already done would fall far ſhort of any eſtimate that at preſent can be made. The batteries which were deemed ſufficiently ſtrong, ſhare in the general ruin, and parties are labouring at the repair in the moſt 15th.

1781 April 15th. moſt imminent danger. The firing from the garriſon is maſterly and well ſupported, carrying into the enemy's lines and works the ſad effects of internecion, which is evident from the number of wounded we obſerve frequently conveying to their camp on litters.

Apathy alone can view the ſituation of the inhabitants on the heights of the Rock without pain; the moſt fortunate are only in poſſeſſion of a thin piece of canvas or ſail-cloth to ſcreen them from the ſcorching heat of the day, and exceſſive dew of the night. Not any conveniency to dreſs the ſmall portion of food ſome have procured, whilſt others are in a famiſhing condition. Judge, dear Brother, their dreadful ſtate from the following fact which, though a ſoldier, drew the compaſſionate tear from my eyes. Mrs. M——, a merchant's lady, came to the encampment with a child in her arms, accident threw me in her way, when with a voice that muſt have melted the moſt unfeeling heart, ſhe ſupplicated for a little ſalt broth for her infant: I ran inſtantly and procured what ſhe requeſted, and ſeated her in my ſmall tent. She aſſured me ſhe had taſted nothing for the two days paſt, and that the preſervation of her dear infant, induced her alone to viſit the encampment. I left her with the ſmall repaſt I had procured, and retired behind the tent. But how can language paint the lively emotions of my heart, in hearing her offer up a prayer to heaven for my preſervation; I confeſs I was unmanned—a merchant's lady three days ago in poſſeſſion of affluency, now reduced to total want, and

to

to ſolicit from a *ſoldier* a portion of his ſmall allowance! Let this, Brother, be a leſſon to you to receive with thankſgiving the abundant bounties of Providence, diſpenſed to man. 1781 April 15

Havock ſtill continues!—Several of the inhabitants in endeavouring to ſave part of their property in town, have loſt their lives. A corporal had his hand ſhot off as he was calling from a window to a man in the ſtreet. A ſoldier was found ſo miſerably torn by a ſhell, that he could not be known only by part of his dreſs. A ſhot killed two ſoldiers this morning, one of whom was bruſhing his ſhoes for guard. Surgeon *Kruger* of *De La Mott*'s regiment, was wounded by a ſplinter of a ſhell. A *Genoeſe* youth, endowed with every amiable qualification, on the point of nuptial celebration, was unfortunately killed. The lady to whom his addreſſes were paid, fled on the intelligence to the place where he had fallen, and claſped his mangled body in her arms.—She was carried home in a ſtate of inſenſibility.

The ſeamen and ſoldiers are aſſiduouſly employed in unloading the ſhipping, as the fleet is not intended to be detained here longer than the proviſion is landed. The parties work day and night—one from ſun-riſe to ſun-ſet, and another from ſun-ſet to ſun-riſe.—The town is become a heap of ruins—the greateſt part of the houſes are either burnt, or battered down. The ſhowers of ſhot from the enemy are beyond credibility—ſuch perdurable diſchrages, with ſuch unbounded impetuoſity, that the ear is ſtunned with the multiplied ſounds.

I cannot

1781 April 15th. I cannot, dear Brother, omit penning the following converſation between two ſoldiers in *Iriſh-Town* yeſterday. I met *Jack Carcleſs* * in the ſtreet, ſinging with uncommon glee (notwithſtanding the enemy were firing with prodigious warmth) part of the old ſong,

"A ſoldier's life's a merry life,
"From care and trouble free."

He ran to his comrade with eagerneſs, and preſenting his bottle, cried, *D--n me, if I don't like fighting: I'd like to be ever tanning the Dons: plenty of good liquor for carrying away—never was the price ſo cheap—fine ſtuff—enough to make a miſer quit his gold.* Why, *Jack*, ſaid he, what have you been about? With an arch grin he replied, *That would puzzle a heathen philoſopher, or yearly almanack-maker, to unriddle—I ſcarce know myſelf. I have been conſtantly on foot and watch, half-ſtarved, and without money, facing a parcel of pitiful Spaniards. I have been fighting, wheeling, marching, and counter-marching; ſometimes with a firelock, then with a handſpike, and now my bottle, brandiſhing it in the air. I am ſo pleaſed with the melody of great guns, that I conſider myſelf as a Roman general, glorioufly fighting for my country's honour and liberty.* A ſhell that inſtant burſt, a piece of which knocked the bottle out of his hand: with the greateſt compoſure he replied (having firſt graced it with an oath) *This is not any loſs, I have found a whole caſk by good luck* (and brought him to view his treaſure.) But, *Jack*, ſays he, are you not thankful to God for your preſervation? *How do*

* A ſoldier well known in the Garriſon by that name.

do you mean, anſwered Jack? Fine talking of God with a ſoldier, whoſe trade and occupation is cutting throats: Divinity and ſlaughter ſound very well together, they gingle like a crack'd bell in the hand of a noiſy crier: our King is anſwerable to God for us; I fight for him. My religion conſiſts in a firelock, open touch-hole, good flint, well-rammed charge, and ſeventy rounds of powder and ball: This is the military creed. Come, comrade, drink Succeſs to the Britiſh arms. On his aſking him for a glaſs, he ſeemed ſurpriſed, *Why, (ſays he,) you may well know there is not one to be had, but here is ſomething that will do as well, (and he took up a piece of a ſhell;) here is a cup fit for a monarch; this was not purchaſed with gold or friendſhip, but with the ſtreams of our countrymens' blood.* Having filled the piece of ſhell, he gave it to his comrade to drink. Come *Jack,* (ſaid he) Here is King George and Victory! *And he that would not drink the ſame (replied he) I'd give him an ounce of lead to pay Charon to ferry him over the river Styx.* 1781 April 15th.

I am,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately Yours.

GARRISON ORDERS.

Full allowance of Beef and Pork, five ounces of Butter, quarter of a pint Oil, one pint Peaſe, one ditto Kidney Beans, two pints of Wheat, and twelve ounces of Raiſins, to be ſerved to-morrow.

LETTER

LETTER XIX.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

1781 April 19th. THE bombardment is kept up vigorouſly by the enemy; a continuation of unceaſing firing, particularly directed to *Willis's Heights*, the King's and Prince's lines—*Landport* and *Waterport* alſo ſuſtain their ſhare. The flag of *England* ſeems to enrage our opponents, as they have directed three pieces of cannon to play upon *Flag-ſtaff Guard*—one ſhot ſtruck the ſtandard this forenoon. Believe me, you would ſmile could you have ſeen the readineſs of the Royal Artillery to replace the damage, amidſt the vivacious diſcharges of the *Dons*, whoſe vengeance ſeemed more forcibly rouſed, by our men immediately nailing on the flag.

The regiments whoſe quarters in town have been deſtroyed, are now encamped upon the different heights of the Rock at the ſouthward, from the riſing ground at the back of the Barracks, extending to the gate at *Windmill-hill*.—The inhabitants have begun erecting temporary ſheds—ſome in the Gullies between *Buena Viſta* and *Europa*, others on *Windmill-hill*, nor is there ſcarce any part of the Rock, out of the reach of the enemy's land fire, but what is covered with marquees, tents, huts, &c. &c. Timber is taken from the ruins of the town to anſwer this neceſſary buſineſs, and the employment occaſioned thereby keeps all hands buſy. A pleaſure boat came over this morning from the *Orange Grove*, and remained at long

long gun ſhot diſtance near an hour, viewing (as we ſuppoſe) the variety of buildings, which muſt exhibit an odd appearance from the Bay. 1781 April 19th.

The military in the *Spaniſh* camp aſſemble in the front of their tents every evening, and bodies of infantry march immediately after into their lines; a reinforcement of officers and men are therefore detached to town, excluſive of the daily guards, as we cannot but expect a ſpeedy attack from the land ſide.—General *Eliott* has prepared to receive them with military politeneſs, not ſparingly, but amply provided for their reception; an excellent repaſt of ſhells of different ſizes, round and grape ſhot, * hand grenades, carcaſſes, &c. are ready to be ſerved up at the ſhorteſt notice, for the entertainment of General *Alvarez* and his troops, when they attempt the expugnation of the Rock.

The following Liſt contains the number of officers and men who mount guard and piquet every day.

	Capts.	Subs.	Serjs.	Cors.	Dms.	Privs.
Town guards	8	14	49	54	15	521
South guards	3	7	15	20	9	270
Artillery	1	3	9	11	0	106
	12	24	73	85	24	897
Piquets	0	13	13	15	13	689
Total	12	37	86	100	37	1586

N. B. The Field Officers are not included in the above number.

Laſt

* A ſmall hollow globe of iron, filled with powder, and fired by a fuze; they are thrown by the hand, and are of great annoyance in battle. Children may throw them over a wall.

1781 April 19th. Laſt night a ſoldier deſerted from *Prince's-lines Guard*, how he eſcaped is impoſſible to conjecture, as neither rope, nor ladder could be diſcovered.

This forenoon arrived a ſhip from the Weſt. Admiral *Barcello* is very quiet on the oppoſite ſide, nor has he ſhewn the leaſt indication to run in any of his fire-ſhips among the ſhipping already anchored. Our men of war keep tacking backwards and forwards, which very much diſconcerts the enemy in the plans they had adopted for their deſtruction. The fire-ſhips which lay at *Cabritta*, are removed to *Algaziras*, where the *Spaniſh* ſquadron have hauled cloſe under the land. The fire from the lines and iſthmus continues without intermiſſion, excepting from twelve to two o'clock at noon, when they rather ſlacken to cool their ordnance, at which time General *Eliott* takes the opportunity of relieving the town guards.

20th. Admiral *Lockhart Roſs*, has been indefatigable in landing the proviſion. His attention to the ſoldiery evinces the goodneſs of his heart, both as an officer and a man of feeling. He learned that a ſoldier was confined for taking a biſcuit, he liberated the man with a ſevere admoniſhing; then calling to a Cooper, directed him to open a caſk of biſcuit, and butter, which he diſtributed among them: "*My good lads*, (ſaid he) *ſteal nothing—your countenances ſpeak the hardſhips you have ſuffered, and whilſt I command here you ſhall have plenty to eat.*"—He alſo cauſed ſeveral baſkets of cheeſe to be opened, which he delivered with a countenance expreſſive of the ſatisfaction he felt.

Wind

Wind N. E. This forenoon Admiral *Darby* made ſignal for ſail; ſeveral veſſels got under weigh from *Roſia*, and in the evening they were all out of ſight. The *Spaniſh* towers, as uſual, ſpread the alarm; the enemy diſcharged their ordnance with great fury, intimating, that now our floating caſtles were departed, they had nothing to obſtruct the exerciſe of their malignant rage. They have damaged our works in ſeveral parts, which we carefully repair during the courſe of the night. We have not as yet loſt many men in the execution of our operations. 1781 April 21ſt.

The enemy continue their briſk fire on the garriſon, and this day Lieutenant *Cunnyngham* of the 39th regiment was much wounded; it is imagined by the faculty it will prove mortal. A ſoldier this day had both his legs ſhot off; he ſeemed rejoiced at the loſs, and exclaimed, *I am now diſmiſſed from the drill and black hole;* which his negligence rendered indiſpenſibly neceſſary often to inflict upon him. 23d.

This day a thirteen-inch ſhell, fired from the enemy's works, dropped in the *King's Baſtion*, and wounded ſeven men; three of them in a very bad condition.—Our batteries are rather remiſs in returning the fire, reſerving the ammunition for other purpoſes. 24th.

Wind E. Arrived from *Minorca*, the *Brilliant*, *Porcupine*, *Enterprize*, and *Minorca* frigates, two ſmall xebecs, and ſixteen ſail of *Tartans* and ſettees, with a ſupply of wine, biſcuit, carravances,* &c. for government account. Admiral *Barcello*, no doubt, was deſperately 27th.

* A ſmall bean, about the ſize of a kidney-bean.

1781 April 27th. perately enraged at the arrival of this unexpected convoy: after having looſed his ſails, and made every appearance of putting to ſea, he fired a gun, which was anſwered at *Ceuta*, as a ſignal for them to keep a ſharp look out to the eaſtward; his ſails were then nimbly furled again.

Came in two deſerters from the enemy's Walloon Guards. They bring the intelligence that the *Spaniards* are expeditiouſly getting in readineſs ſcaling ladders, and all neceſſary equipments for an attack, and that in a few months we may depend upon being vigorouſly ſtormed both by land and ſea. This is looked upon as contemptible preſumption: for *Britons*, whilſt led on by veteran chiefs, and gallant heroes, will ever defend theſe envied battlements and walls from *Spain*'s approaches, and compel them to return, after all their pomp and parade, amidſt diſguſt and diſappointment of the deſired glory. The enemy's gun and mortar-boats came over laſt night, and fired upon the inhabitants retreats, and troops encampments; on this occaſion, a ſoldier's wife was killed, as ſhe was haſtily dreſſing herſelf in the tent, in order to ſeek ſome place of refuge. Some others were ſlightly wounded.

28th. This morning, their being a calm ſea, the gun and mortar-boats gave us a pretty briſk fire. The garriſon and ſhipping kept up a hot cannonade upon them, but unfortunately they killed one ſoldier, and wounded ſix others, of different regiments. They fired between two and three hundred rounds.

At ten o'clock this forenoon, a party aſſembled at the lower extremity of the *Old Mole* (or

(or *Devil's Tongue*) to make an experiment of reaching the *Spaniſh* camp, from two ſea-mortars planted there. The firſt ſhell we threw fell within a few yards of the Eaſt angle of their grand magazine, which ſeemed to fill the enemy with conſternation; not imagining it was practicable to have annoyed them in that part from the garriſon, the diſtance being 3056 yards. We threw ſeveral, which fell in different parts of their encampment—one burſt in the air about half way, the ſplinters of which were ſeen to fall near the ſhore above the battery (now called the *Black Battery*) on the right of *St. Phillippe.* It is reported, the intention of this is, to convince the enemy that we ſhall be able to repay the compliment upon their encampment, whenever their boats viſit ours. 1781 April 28th.

The ſouthward heights of the garriſon were lined with a number of the inhabitants, who willingly became ſpectators (out of the reach of danger) of the experimental exhibition, impatiently waiting the diſcharge; but when they perceived the ſhell fall upon the *Spaniſh* land, they repeatedly gave loud acclamations, happy in their minds that we had found out a means of annoying the enemy's camp.

Wind E. Laſt night ſailed the *Enterprize* and *Minorca* frigates, for *England*, with ſeveral other ſhips under convoy: the enemy have not detached any of their ſhipping from *Algaziras* in purſuit of them. A ſignal was obſerved this morning on the tower at *Cabritta*, which we imagine was intended to alarm the cruizers at *Cadiz*. Admiral *Barcello* ſeems leſs attentive in watching the port, as very few of his 29th.

1781 April his cruizers are out. From the land ſide we are plentifully ſupplied with ſhot and ſhells; their batteries continue raging nearly the whole twenty-four hours of each day. The enemy are profuſely liberal, and, with an unexampled generoſity, repay the cannonade.

Your's, &c.

LETTER XX.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

May 1 AMIDST the clamour of war, ſhells burſting, ſhot flying, and houſes burning, a continual ſcene of ſulphur, ſmoke, and fire; whenever I have any hours unemployed from duty, I dedicate them to your ſervice. Death ſtares me in the face every minute, and therefore what I write you may look upon as the ſincere ſentiments of my heart. The ſtreets of the town are like a deſart, and almoſt every houſe burnt, or torn with ſhot and ſhells. In ſome parts the ſhot and broken pieces of ſhells are ſo thick, that in walking your feet does not touch the ground. The enemy have kept up a fire theſe twenty days paſt, and it is believed, before they ceaſe, our ſmall arms will be buſily employed. The enemy's gun and mortar-boats are firing from the Bay. A ſhell, which now burſt, forced me to run with my papers in my hand, to avoid danger.—The groans of one in miſery has reached my ears — I muſt

—I muſt haſte to his aſſiſtance. On my going 1781
to the other ſide of a traverſe, I found a ſol- May
dier, with both legs broke by a piece of the ſhell which occaſioned my retreat—a miſerable ſpectacle! The gun-boats are gone, having fired about three hundred rounds at the ſouthward. I do not hear of any particular damage done.

This forenoon a ſoldier was executed for 5th.
plunder, at the place where the fact was committed, with a label upon his breaſt denoting the ſame. He was left hanging till ſun-ſet.

The gun and mortar-boats paid us a general 8th.
ſalute; the garriſon and ſhipping made a return:—happily not any damage was done on our ſide.

This day the enemy made a ſhameful ſea- 12th.
attack: after near two hours diſcharge of their ordnance, they triumphantly retreated to ſpread their great exploits and bold atchievements along their coaſt, without having thrown a ſhot or ſhell on ſhore. We imagine that they muſt have ſuffered conſiderably on the 8th from our fire.

The gun and mortar-boats laſt night again 13th.
diſturbed us with their firing, but only damaged a few huts in our encampment. Theſe nocturnal expeditions are of great annoyance to the garriſon, as the duty of the ſoldiery is very fatiguing, being conſtantly on foot for ſix or ſeven days and nights together; and probably, when it comes to their turn to have a night to reſt in, theſe common diſturbers make their appearance. It is really lamentable, that we cannot adopt a means of deſtroying them.

1781 May. 20th. Laſt night, a man was diſcovered advancing in ſlow ſteps towards the garriſon, on the road leading from *Bay-ſide* to *Landport*; but when he came pretty near the advanced guard, he crawled upon his hands and knees: a *Hanoverian* ſerjeant, on duty there, challenged him before he came as far as the work, upon which he made a retreat. Lieutenant *Whetham*, of the 58th regt. immediately made a ſally with great activity, but when on the point of ſeizing him, he unfortunately fell into a ſhell-hole, which gave the other time to puſh through *Bay-ſide*. A gold-laced hat was picked up on the road, which makes us imagine that he was an officer in the enemy's ſervice, who had come to view the ſituation of the place, and how far a detachment might advance in the night before they would be diſcovered. Our guards in the lines fired pretty briſkly, and was very near killing the officer that ſallied out.

26th. The gun and mortar-boats came over laſt night, and gave the camp a very briſk ſalute. Several people were killed and wounded. The *New Mole*, *Parſon's Lodge*, *Buena Viſta*, and *South Baſtion*, fired remarkably warm upon them, but could not make them deſiſt: when their ammunition was all expended, they then took their leave. A ſhell from the *Mill-Tower Battery* fell into a houſe at the back of *South-Shed Guard*, by which a child was killed, and a man and two women wounded; the man is in ſo dangerous a way, that his life is deſpaired of. I cannot cloſe this account, without informing you, that the mother of the above child was killed on the 28th of April, by the fire

fire of the gun-boats, and that the huſband is almoſt diſconſolate for their loſs. 1781 May

This day two ſoldiers were executed at the *White Convent* for plunder. The town-guards, by order of the Governor, marched paſt while they were hanging. 29th.

This day, another ſoldier was executed for the ſame crime: the General is a very humane man, but cannot overlook ſo great an infringement of martial law. It is amazing, that men ſhould ſport away their exiſtence, for the gratification of their ſenſual appetites, as the crimes for which they all ſuffered were for plundering the king's ſtores of proviſions and liquor. I hope that theſe examples will be ſufficient to deter the unthinking part from committing the ſame acts. 30th.

The enemy's fire is not ſo briſk as at the firſt; they are pretty moderate during the day, but at night play more freely. It is aſſerted, they do not fire above ſixteen or eighteen hundred rounds *per diem*. Since my laſt, the following officers have been wounded.

Lieutenant *Willington*, Royal Artillery,
Lieutenant *Lowe* and *Thornton*, of the 12th.
And Captain *Foulis*, of the 73d regiments.

☞ Lieutenant *Cunnyngham*, 39th regiment, died of his wounds the 6th inſtant.

We are in continual expectation of being ſtormed by the enemy, but we begin to be ſo inured to dangers, that the ſound of it is no more regarded than an old tale. Wiſhing you every joy, peace, and contentment, I ſubſcribe myſelf.

Your affectionate Brother,

LETTER XXI.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

1781 June 1st. ALL the pleaſure I have is to write to you, and receive your anſwers. The enemy keep their uſual warm fire on the garriſon, and we are hourly waiting their aſſault. You are far out of the reach of danger. You may ſleep contented, nor dread a vigorous fire of thirteen-inch ſhells, and twenty-ſix pound ſhot, which here we are continually ſupplied and entertained with, I aſſure you the *Dons*, in this reſpect, evince a martial taſte, and are beyond belief liberal.

Yeſterday evening we made a prize of a *Neapolitan* brig. Our batteries fired at her, which obliged her to come in, ſhe having received ſeveral ſhot. She is laden with flour, conſigned to the enemy: We brought her into the *New Mole*.

This morning, at two o'clock, the *Spaniſh* gun and mortar-boats came over, and fired upwards of three hundred rounds, and then retired; two ſoldiers were wounded, but not dangerouſly; they damaged ſeveral of the huts —We fired a number of ſhells, which burſt in the air over them. It is conjectured they muſt have ſuffered conſiderably. On the land ſide the enemy fired exceſſive hard all the night, ſuch repeated vollies that it was impoſſible diſtinctly to tell how many guns were diſcharged each time; they have greatly ſhattered our works,

works, but they cannot abate our ſpirits.— 1781
Courage is Britons' Prerogative. June

GARRISON ORDERS.

Proviſions as uſual, except that for one pound of beef, three quarters of a pound of cheeſe will be iſſued weekly.

This morning the Royal Standard was hoiſted on flag-ſtaff, and at noon we gave the enemy a ROYAL SALUTE with ſhot, in honour of his Majeſty's birth-day. The *Spaniſh* working parties were buſily employed on the iſthmus, ſtrengthening and repairing their works. 4th.

This morning a magazine belonging to the enemy, on the riſing ground under the *Queen's Chair*, took fire, conſiſting of ready prepared ſhells: there was a great exploſion, and it is computed near five thouſand ſhells were deſtroyed, beſides many lives loſt. It is incredible to believe the joy and tranſport exhibited by the *Britiſh* ſoldiery, while death mingled with the enemy. 9th.

This morning a boat, under flag of truce, came over from *Algaziras*, to inquire the cauſe of our firing at a neutral veſſel yeſterday. It is currently reported, that the General returned a *Britiſh* anſwer, "*That they muſt either keep out of the reach of his guns, or bring to, if required.*" The enemy made another ſea-attack with their gun and mortar-boats, but received a ſmart repulſe. I believe they did not reliſh our play, as we gave them a plentiful diſtribution of ſhells, which burſt over their heads. Not any damage done on ſhore. 11th.

This

1781 June 13th. This forenoon a flag of truce brought over the women and children that were taken by the enemy, in the ſhips that ſailed from hence the 29th of April. They have detained the crews, in order that they may have the leſs oppoſition when they make their attack.

GARRISON ORDERS.

15th. *Proviſion from Monday next the 18th of June, till further orders.*

Seven pound of Bread, four ditto of which will be ſoft, and three ditto of Biſcuit; one pound and half Beef, one pound Pork, twelve ounces Cheeſe, ſix ounces Butter, quarter pint of Oil, four pints of Peaſe, and three pints of Oatmeal, per week.

25th. This morning the enemy's gun and mortar-boats diſcharged about two hundred and fifty rounds, without effecting any other damage, than blowing up ſeveral huts and tents. The batteries, moſt convenient to annoy them, played very briſkly.

26th. Wind E. Laſt night ſailed a ſhip with ſeveral invalids, under the care of Captain *Colt*, 12th regiment, for *England*. The enemy, it is imagined, did not perceive her going out.

The *Neapolitan*, mentioned the firſt of June, was condemned here as a lawful prize, and agents are accordingly appointed until his Majeſty's pleaſure is known.

GARRISON ORDERS.

30th. *The ſame quantity and ſpecies of proviſion, to be iſſued next month as laſt.*

The

The enemy keep at work—they ſeem to be extending a branch towards the Weſt ſhore.— They continue the Siege by land with as much fury as ever. Admiral *Barcelo* occupies his old ſtation, and views with pleaſure the excurſions of his gun-boats. We are very buſily employed every night repairing the damages done by their ſhot and ſhells. We have not had an officer wounded this month, but ſeveral non-commiſſioned officers and men killed and wounded. 1781 June

I am,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately yours, &c.

LETTER XXII.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

THE enemy continue vigorouſly to bombard the garriſon.—They are making ſome additional fortifications on the iſthmus, either to ſhelter themſelves, or to annoy us in a greater degree. Their military force does not appear to have received any reinforcement—We obſerve every night ſeveral detachments marching down to the lines, which we conjecture are to relieve the different guards and artillery parties. July 3

Yeſterday afternoon, about fifteen or ſixteen ſail of ſmall craft arrived from the Weſtward at *Orange Grove*.

We

1781 July We kept up a very hot fire laſt night upon the enemy's mill battery, chiefly ſmall ſhells. Several carts, and a large body of men, having been obſerved paſſing the Weſt angle of *St. Phillippe*, juſt at the cloſe of the evening, which we apprehended were for the execution of ſome work on the iſthmus.

9th. The enemy's gun and water boats came over, and diſcharged very briſkly ſeveral rounds of ſhot and ſhells. They did not ſtay near their uſual time, which makes us imagine they have ſuffered from our burſting the ſhells over their heads.

13th. Wind W. Arrived a xebec at *Algaziras*. The ſmall craft that anchored at *Orange Grove* the 3d inſtant have been landing either ſtores or proviſions ever ſince: this morning they removed from *Algaziras*.

Laſt night we had ſeveral men killed and wounded by the enemy's land-fire.

15th. This morning a xebec and ſeveral gallies ſtood to the Eaſt, two ſmall ſail having been obſerved there, waiting the change of the wind. It is not improbable but they are veſſels with ſupplies, bound from *Tetuan* to the garriſon.

17th. Wind E. The xebec and cruizers have returned, without ſucceſs, to *Cabritta*, where they have anchored to keep a look out to the Eaſt.

Laſt night a veſſel ſailed from here, bound to *England* with diſpatches, mentioning all is well. The enemy's land fire is very ſlack, only now and then a few ſhot in the day—at night their diſcharge is moſtly ſhells.

This

This morning two gallies brought into *Algaziras* a large ſettee.—*Aicki Hamet*, a *Moriſh* butcher, ſays ſhe is laden with cattle from *Cairo*. This will be a great loſs to the garriſon, as we have not received any ſupply of freſh meat for ſome time, and there being very few cattle at preſent in the place. The freſh proviſion which is ſold now, is pork, and that is very indifferent and ſcarce, being fed on the filth of the place, eight rials per pound, about three ſhillings and three pence ſterling. 1781 July 20th.

Very little fire from the enemy by land theſe ſix days—they ſeem to be repairing our works, and we are as attentively employed upon our our own.—Towards the Bay all is quiet, 23d.

The enemy have again roufed.—Yeſterday and to-day they fired inceſſantly. Our batteries made but a trifling return; as it is almoſt madneſs to fire at their works, they being ſo thickly covered with ſand, that our ſhot finds very little penetration. 28th.

The enemy continue firing, and ſeem determined, if poſſible, to batter down all their works—their gun and mortar boats again viſited us, without effecting any damage. We are really in a diſmal ſituation—between the land and ſea fire, we ſcarce dare cloſe our eyes. On your part you muſt not expect correct letters; the hurry of the times, the noiſe of mortars, howitzers, cannon, and the burſting of ſhells, render the mind ſo confuſed that it would be a taſk: let it ſuffice that I am alive; that ſhot and ſhells are my near companions; that ſmoke, and wounded brother-ſoldiers are conſtantly in view; that we have heavy duty, 30th.

hard

1781 July 30th. hard watchings, and little reſt; that our comforts are groans; that our nightly repoſe is turned to harraſſing alarms; that our paſtimes are deſtruction; that every hour, we or the enemy are inventing ſome horrid ſtratagem; and that the next we behold each other plunged thereby into the moſt excruciating anguiſh.

Such, dear Brother, are *Gibraltar* exhibitions; and perhaps while you are reading this, and feel a ſenſible pang at your heart for my ſituation, I may be performing a part in the tragical ſcene, on a ſtage where criticiſm bluſhes to appear.

You will think I indulge a brood of melancholy reflections, but believe me, I am as chearful as the god of mirth! Amidſt camps, martial ſounds, and all the din of war, I find complacency in a reſignation to the will of God. If Death attends, I hope to receive my fate with a chriſtian fortitude, and meet honour with expanded arms. With the fulleſt ſenſe of brotherly affection, I ſubſcribe myſelf,

Sincerely your's.

LETTER XXIII.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

Aug. 1. NOTHING material has taken place on the iſthmus;—the enemy are very attentive to the Siege, and keep up a well directed and regular fire. We loſt ſeveral men yeſterday afternoon, by the fire from the *Black Battery*.

Gentle

Gentle breezes at W. Laſt night the gun and mortar boats arranged in two ſeparate diviſions, briſkly poured into the garriſon about two hundred rounds of ſhot and ſhells. Our batteries, together with the *Repulſe* and *Van Guard* (which are anchored off the *New Mole Head*) gave them a generous return. The cannonade was ſo ſpirited, that the bay appeared a blaze during the whole time. 1781 Aug.

Wind W. This morning a boat ſtanding for the Rock, was taken by the enemy's cruizers, and conducted over the way. We could not give her any aſſiſtance, ſhe being near two leagues diſtance. 3d.

The enemy keep buſy at work during the intervals our fire ceaſes, and have greatly ſtrengthened their advanced approaches. From their proceedings we are almoſt poſitive they have other works in contemplation. On our ſide we have begun forming ſome additional * embrazures on the hills. 5th.

This forenoon a ſail appeared in the Offing, with little wind at W. The *Spaniſh* watch-towers hung out the ſignal of an enemy's appearance.—Eighteen ſail of gun-boats rowed out from *Algaziras*, and when ſhe had come within two leagues of the garriſon, it fell a dead calm, and the enemy raked her fore and aft, ſhowering grape both upon her ſtarboard and larboard quarter. She plied her guns briſkly, and I believe would have been inevitably taken, had not Captain *Curtis*, naval commander, ordered the two gun boats, viz. the *Van Guard* and *Repulſe*, the former of ſix, and the latter of five guns, to be towed by the 6th.

* Holes in a battery through which the cannon are pointed.

1781. Aug. 6th. the men of war's boats, towards the enemy, which they performed in a gallant and undaunted manner, notwithſtanding the *Spaniſh* gun boats directed their fire among them—When they had got within reach, the *Repulſe* diſcharged her guns, and as ſoon as the *Van Guard* came up ſhe did the ſame, which prevented the enemy from boarding the veſſel—a xebec, cutter, and ſeveral double gallies co-operated, and poured in a heavy fire, but could not cut her off from the garriſon. Her ſails, we could plainly perceive, were ſo greatly torn with grape, that when the breeze ſprang up, ſhe could make but little way, but our boats having got a rope from her, they towed her under the walls. She proves to be the *Helena* ſloop, in ſixteen days from *Portſmouth*. Her main maſt was ſhot through with a twenty-ſix pound ball; the boatſwain was killed, and one of the crew wounded: ſuch a warm ſea engagement was never known in ſight of the garriſon, and we concluded that every ſoul on board muſt have been killed or wounded;—But *Britons* are ever brave, nor could the numerous ſwarm of cruizers the leaſt diſhearten the Captain, nor diſpirit the noble crew, who were determined, rather than yield to *Spaniſh* power, to periſh every man. When ſhe had come near enough for the garriſon to cheer (who in crouds had taken poſſeſſion of the walls and heights as ſpectators) an inceſſant ſhouting enſued, and huzzas, that re-echoed from the Rock and ſkies.

Such inſtances as theſe muſt convince the enemy that the ſpirit of *Britons* is unparalleled, and that no ſuperiority of power will make them

in pieces, and extinguiſhed thoſe ſparks of life that were unexpired in the wounded man. 1781 Aug.

Nothing extraordinary this month from the land or ſea; every thing is perfectly quiet in reſpect to ſtorming us. The *Spaniſh* batteries continue their uſual fire, both from their lines and iſthmus. We expect, every weſterly wind, to behold the grand armament appear in the Offing from *Cadiz*, to give the deciſive blow.—General *Eliott* has made every poſſible arrangement of ordnance, for a determined oppoſition; and, I hope, whenever the trial comes, that our arms will be crowned with victorious ſucceſs. 30th.

I am,

Dear Brother,

Sincerely yours.

LETTER XXIV.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

DEATH and Slaughter continue to be our viſitants—on every hand impending ruin hourly awaits. The *Spaniards* keep up their uſual fire upon us, ſeemingly ſtudiouſly meditating our overthrow; not only the garriſon of *Gibraltar*, but alſo the iſland of *Minorca*, has excited their attention. From this it is evident they are aiming at clearing the *Mediterranean* of his Britannic Majeſty's land and ſea-forces, but Sept.

1781 Sept. but it is hoped that their endeavours to effect theſe purpoſes, will fall ſhort of the deſired ſucceſs.

5th. This forenoon, a *Spaniſh* cartel brought over the Patron of the boat taken the third of Auguſt laſt, from whom we learn, that the *French* have landed an army on the iſland of *Minorca*, with an intent to work the reduction of that place; and it is currently reported in *Spain*, that the *Duc de Crillon* had commenced a bombardment there. Several wounded invalids were embarked on ſhip-board by order of the Governor, on their paſſage for *England*, the third inſtant.

The enemy are very buſy on the iſthmus, employed at work, forwarding their labours—the tracts of ſeveral carts have been diſcovered on the ſand, between the lines and *Mill-Battery*, ſo that we imagine they were carrying ordnance or materials for their batteries.

7th. Arrived from the eaſtward a xebec and two gallies, they have anchored on the oppoſite ſide. The enemy's fire continues. Three men were wounded this afternoon by the exploſion of a ſhell.

12th. This morning the *Spaniſh* ſquadron was dreſſed out with variety of colours, and at noon the forts, lines, and *Black Battery* gave us a ſalute of twenty-ſeven guns with ſhot: The troops in camp were arranged in line, and fired a *feu de joye*, which they repeated three times, together with the ſhipping at *Algaziras*. We cannot imagine the cauſe of this rejoicing, as it is not one of their Saint's days.

16th. Wind E. The invalids that were embarked under the care of Lieutenant *Lowe* of the

the 12th regiment, ſailed laſt night to the Weſtward. 1781 Sept.

The enemy continue a briſk cannonade—We return the fire moderately.

Laſt night the *Spaniſh* gun and mortar-boats ſtole over, and fired upwards of three hundred rounds of ſhot and ſhells—the garriſon and ſhipping kept up an inceſſant diſcharge of ordnance, but unluckily, during the action we had four men wounded. 18th.

Some time in the courſe of the night, a carcaſs, fired from *Willis's*, upon the works on the iſthmus, ſet them on fire, which burnt for near an hour—We took this opportunity of making a furious cannonade, which the enemy particularly acknowledged.

We diſcovered this morning a new work, Weſt ſide of *St. Carlos*, extended towards the ſhore. It is not ſufficiently executed to form a judgment of the conſtruction.

A xebec and ſeveral ſmall craft ſailed this morning from *Algaziras* to the Eaſtward, where they are obſerved cruizing backwards and forwards, in expectation of meeting ſome prey.

Between nine and ten o'clock laſt night, a ſhell fired from *St. Carlos*'s battery, on the iſthmus, entered a houſe near *South Line-wall* guard —Majors *Mercier* and *Vignoles* of the 39th regiment, and Captain *Burke* of the 58th regiment (Town-Major of the garriſon) were ſitting round a table in a room when the ſhell deſcended with fatal deſtruction, which falling on the thighs of the latter, greatly mutilated them, and wounded the two other Majors :—the rubbiſh which fell from the ceiling by the forcible entry, extinguiſhed the candle, and 19th.

1781 Sept. 19th. the only light remaining was the igneous fuze of the ſhell. Majors *Mercier* and *Vignoles* in their wounded condition, inſtantly aroſe to eſcape, when taking hold of Captain *Burke*, they found him in a ſtate apparently deprived of action or expreſſion. Self preſervation became neceſſary, (one minute longer delay probably would have terminated their exiſtence) they inſtantly retreated in pain, from the ſcene of miſery, which they had ſcarce effected, when the ſhell burſt with furious exploſion, and toſſed the Town-Major from the place where he had fallen, to another part of the room: He was ſoon after removed in a mangled and torn condition, which feelingly effected the ſoldiers, who carried him from that place to the Naval Hoſpital, where he ſoon afterwards expired, in the moſt excruciating agony.

In viſiting the houſe in the morning, the walls were found ſhattered, beſprinkled with his blood, and part of his fleſh ſticking to the ruins of the roof.

You will pardon me in attempting to draw the outlines of ſo worthy and deſerving an officer.

He was bold, vigilant, enterprizing, and well diſciplined. Active and ſevere in his ſtation, and attentive to an impartial diſcharge of the duty he owed his country, but to do juſtice to his eminent abilities, my talents are too inadequate, I muſt therefore leave it to ſome able writer, who knew his private, as well as public virtues. His loſs will be long regretted by ſociety;—by his country in general, and this garriſon in particular.

While

While the attendants ſtrove to bind his wounds, 1781
He patient gaz'd around, with placid eyes, Sept.
'Till wearied Nature ſinking with her load, 19th.
Reſiſted—ſtruggled—worn out with th' encounter,
Reſign'd her charge unto the tyrant Death;
His ſoul unfetter'd, unincumber'd fled,
To the bleſt manſions of eternal peace.

The enemy kept up a briſk fire the whole of laſt night, which was as ſpiritedly returned by our batteries, and when the above intelligence had reached the ſeveral poſts, revenge operated ſo powerfully, that our cannonade continued till the morning, very hot. We had ſeveral men wounded, during the night.

Sailed the *Helena* ſloop, and *Kite* cutter, to the Weſtward.

This day, between eleven and one o'clock, a ſoldier was executed for theft. He died ſeemingly inſenſible of his ſituation.

GARRISON ORDERS. 20th.

Captain James Foulis of the 73d regiment, is appointed Town-Major, vice Major Burke deceaſed.

This day we had ſeveral men killed from the land-fire—the enemy continue briſkly at work on the Weſt ſide of *St. Carlos*.

GARRISON ORDERS.

1781
Sept. 21ſt. *The ration of proviſions from Monday the 24th inſt. ſeven pounds of Bread, and half ditto Beef, one ditto Pork, ſix ounces Butter, twelve ditto Cheeſe, (in lieu of one pound Beef) three pints of Oatmeal, three ditto Peaſe, one and quarter ditto of Wheat, in lieu of one pint Peaſe.*

24th. Laſt night the enemy's gun and mortar-boats came over, and fired near three hundred rounds, but moſtly ſhells—they did not do any conſiderable damage to the ſouthward. Our prams diſcovered them pretty early, and made a very free return:—the firing from the garriſon at them was chiefly from the *New Mole* and *South Baſtion*—We took the advantage to fire during their ſtay, into their camp, from the extremity of the *Devil's Tongue*. The enemy from the land-ſide keep up the bombardment and cannonade, and are attentively employed at work on the iſthmus, improving and advancing their lines of approach.

25th. Wind W. Arrived the *Flying Fiſh* cutter, from *England*. A xebec chaced her under the garriſon guns, and exchanged ſeveral ſhot with her, but could not prevent her from entering the port. During the courſe of the night, the merlons (that have been heightened) off *Fort-Barbara*, took fire, which occaſioned the garriſon to pour in a great quantity of ſhot and ſhells.

A few ſmall veſſels arrived at the *Orange-Grove*—It is likely they have brought proviſion for the *Spaniſh* camp, as their army muſt cauſe a great conſumption in the province of *Andaluſia*,

Iuſia, which at beſt is but poor, and badly ſupplied with cattle. 1781 Sept.

The enemy have not ceaſed firing theſe five days, but have kept up a regular and determined cannonade: They have not killed and wounded many, though a perſon would think it impoſſible for a bird to eſcape, amidſt ſuch ſhowers of ſhot. On the ſea-ſide all is quiet, nor has any ſhipping of force appeared, either from Eaſt or Weſt to moleſt us. The enemy are very tedious in commencing the ſtorm, and really our expectation begins to tire. They have bombarded us now near ſix months, and General *Alvarez* is as far from taking poſſeſſion of the garriſon as he was at firſt, although they have diſcharged from their batteries, according to the neareſt calculation, between thirty and forty thouſand rounds of ſhot and ſhells. He may view the rock with his perſpective, from the camp of *St. Roque*, but if he wiſhes to examine the workmanſhip of the walls, and the ſtrength of the fortification, he muſt come much nearer, or return without the gratification of his curioſity. 30th.

I remain,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately Yours.

LETTER

LETTER XXV.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

1781 Oct. 5. EVERY thing remains much in the ſame ſituation as when I finiſhed my laſt letter. Admiral *Barcello* and his ſquadron occupy the port of *Algaziras*, from whence now and then a xebec or galley will occaſionlly puſh out, merely to command reſpect. We have not obſerved a ſignal on the *Spaniſh* towers at *Cabritta* a long time, but we expect, whenever the naval power ſails from *Cadiz* harbour, it will be immediately noiſed along the coaſt. The ſoldiery appear impatient for the grand attack, and attentively watch the variation of the wind, as a weſterly breeze only will waft their armament to the place of action.

7th. Very little wind at W. Laſt night the gun and mortar-boats came over, and fired exceſſive briſk upon the ſouthward: the garriſon and ſhipping returned the ſame, but the enemy did not do any damage on ſhore. We fired ſeveral ſhells into their camp from *Old Mole-Head*. The enemy keep working on the iſthmus, and maintain the land cannonade with fury.

10th. This day the enemy fired upon us with great warmth, which was freely returned by the batteries upon the hill. Unfortunately during the time, a ſhell, which burſt, killed Enſign *Stevens* of the 39th regiment—Several men were wounded by the ſplinters of ſhells.

The

The *Flying Fiſh* cutter, which arrived here the 25th of September, ſailed, unperceived by the enemy. 1781 Oct.

Wind E. This day the enemy's line of battle ſhips ſailed to the weſtward. From this circumſtance, we conclude that the fleet equiping at *Cadiz* is deſtined to act againſt ſome other place, or there could not be any neceſſity to remove thoſe ſhips from their ſtation. On the land-ſide the enemy keep up the fire, and this day it is reported an additional mortar was mounted in *St. Carlos*. We fired very hot on their advanced works. 11th.

The enemy, yeſterday afternoon, had ſome artillery-practice in their camp, but we could not particularly make out the meaning, as we only obſerved ſome ſmoke, and heard the report of the ordnance. On the iſthmus ſeveral working parties continue their labours, which the batteries unremittingly fire upon. 17th.

This day a hot cannonade was kept up on both ſides for many hours—Lieutenant *Tinlin*, Aſſiſtant-Engineer, and four ſoldiers, were wounded thereby. Our fire apparently put the enemy frequently in confuſion, as ſeveral men were ſeen carrying on bearers along the ſhore toward their camp. 20th.

This day there was a general change of quarters with the ſoldiery—thoſe regiments quartered in town marched and took poſſeſſion of the ſouthward encampments, and the others marched for the town-diſtrict. Arrived a xebec from the Weſt at *Algaziras*. The enemy as uſual keep up the fire. 21ſt.

This morning we diſcovered the enemy had finiſhed a battery of ſix embrazures from *Mill-Tower*, 22d

1781 Oct. *Tower*, towards the Weſt ſtrand; which they began on the 18th September. It faces the *Old Mole* and *Water-Port*, and is conſtructed on purpoſe for the annoyance of thoſe poſts. We fired very warm upon it from *Montague*'s baſtion, and the upper batteries.

23d. Laſt night two ſoldiers deſerted from us to the enemy; they cannot carry any intelligence that will prove prejudicial to the welfare of the garriſon.

About two this afternoon, a great firing was heard in the Gut—the *Spaniſh* towers had a red flag hoiſted, and ſeveral gallies puſhed from *Algaziras* to the weſtward.—We fear ſome unfortunate veſſel, deſtined for this place, has fallen into the enemy's clutches.

24th. This day we had the pleaſure to ſet the enemy's new work on fire, by howitzer-ſhells from *Montague*'s baſtion, which occaſioned the enemy to redouble their cannonade from their forts and lines. With much difficulty, danger, and loſs, they got the fire extinguiſhed; on our ſide we had ſome few wounded.

25th. Laſt night the enemy covered the embraſures of their new battery with ſand and faſcines; from this it is evident that the platforms for the cannon are not laid; it will therefore be ſome days before they can have them mounted for action. We give them a plentiful diſcharge of ſmall ſhells, which muſt prove very diſadvantageous to them in their proceedings.

A report is now received from the batteries, that a *Spaniſh* officer (as they could plainly perceive his uniform) was knocked off the *Mill Battery* as he was ſtanding upon the glacis, taking an obſervation of our works. There is not

not any doubt but he was an engineer, which will be a loſs to the enemy, as they have ſome of the moſt celebrated for fortification now in their ſervice. 1781 Oct.

A heavy fire all night from the *Black Battery*, forts, and lines. This day, Lieutenant *Vicars*, of the 56th regiment, received a wound. The *Spaniſh* gallies that ſailed to the weſt the 23d. inſtant, have returned to their old ſtation. 26th.

Wind W. About eleven this forenoon a ſail appeared ſtanding for the Bay. Two *Spaniſh* cruizers under *Ape's Hill* fired a ſignal gun, upon which eleven gun-boats ſallied out from *Algaziras*. When they came up with her, ſhe opened her ports, and diſcharged ſeveral rounds of grape, and continued firing till ſhe came pretty near *Europa*, where the enemy boarded her, and carried her off in triumph. She was an *Engliſh* cutter, and fought well, nor according to opinion, would ſhe have been captured had not the wind dropped. The enemy kept up a ſpirited fire from the land ſide. 30th.

Laſt night arrived, with a freſh breeze at Weſt, the *Unicorn* cutter, and four other veſſels, from *Faro*, laden with fruit and poultry, a very ſeaſonable and excellent ſupply, as the garriſon are very much neceſſitated for vegetables, fruit, and freſh diet. The *New Mole* wharf, this morning, was quite crowded, every one being anxious to buy ſomething, although the articles ſold at an exorbitant rate: onions ſold for ſix rials per pound (two ſhillings and five pence farthing) oranges and lemons one rial eight quarts each (ſeven pence halfpenny ſterling) the poultry at the uſual prices, viz. three dollars and an half for a hen. Common 31ſt.

green

1781 Oct. 31ſt. green tea, brought by the *Unicorn*, ſold for fourteen dollars per pound (two pounds five ſhillings and ſixpence) and a loaf of ſugar five dollars, nearly ſeventeen ſhillings per pound. This is rare traffic! We hope theſe times will not laſt long, and a communication will be opened, ſo that ſupplies may be brought in and ſold at a moderate price; or, ſhould they continue, the garriſon will, of courſe, be exhauſted of all caſh in a ſhort time.

The enemy keep up a conſtant fire—Their works on the iſthmus are going forward, and their naval and military force remains juſt the ſame.

This month is finiſhed without any great exploits, or coming to cloſe quarters.

I am,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately yours.

LETTER XXVI.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

Nov. 3 THREE days more elapſed without any particular circumſtance intervening, nor has the enemy appeared to be ſo attentive to their labours. The ſiege is continued by our opponents, who adopt every meaſure to diſtreſs us, notwithſtanding which, the *Britiſh* troops apparently diſregard the threatning foe, who

who thunder forth their vengeance every hour. 1781 Nov.

The ſoldiery are very much afflicted with the ſcurvy, owing to the ſalt diet, and ſome of them ſo bad that they have loſt the entire uſe of their limbs, and repreſent the picture of decrepid old age. Our Governor has humanely ordered the director of the hoſpital, to ſerve out daily to the ſurgeons of the ſeveral corps, one pound of onions for every ten men, and two lemons or oranges for every man in the ſcurvy. This, it is hoped, will contribute greatly to their cure.

The gun and mortar boats came over, and diſcharged all their ammunition upon the garriſon, while the land batteries took part in the cannonade. An inceſſant fire on every ſide continued for upwards of two hours, during which time Enſign *Edgar* of the 56th, and Lieutenant *John Frazer* of the 73d regiments, were wounded—the latter loſt a leg by a ſhot from the *Black Battery*; ſeveral ſoldiers alſo were wounded. 4th.

Nine ſettees came from the Weſt, and anchored at the *Orange Grove*—We ſuppoſe them to be market boats.

Yeſterday we fired from the garriſon at a *Daniſh* dogger, that came nearly under the guns, but could not make her ſtand in. On the land ſide the enemy fired exceſſively warm, which was anſwered from *Willis*'s and the upper batteries. This morning we diſcovered that the enemy had erected another battery on the iſthmus, ſeemingly fronting our lines—They are determined to have a ſufficient number of pieces of ordnance mounted for battering our walls. 9th.

Wind

1781 Nov. 13th. Wind W. Arrived at *New Mole* the *Phœnix* ordnance cutter, with Brigadier-General *Roſs*, paſſenger. She had a bruſh with a cruizer at the entrance of the Bay, but not of any conſequence—Her intelligence is kept very ſecret.

This forenoon a cutter from the weſtward was chaſed by a frigate and three gallies, but before ſhe could reach the garriſon ſhe was becalmed and boarded: She plied her guns in a ſpirited manner, but the ſuperiority of power obliged her to yield. The enemy brought her into *Algaziras*, under her enſign reverſed.

A very heavy fire from the land batteries, directed towards the hill and town, during which we had the loſs of two men killed, and three wounded.

14th. A briſk fire from the lines and forts.—The enemy worked very hard laſt night on the iſthmus, and completed the battery they began on the 9th inſt. We fired ſeveral thirteen inch ſhells upon them this morning.

16th. This day a ſhell, fired from *St. Carlos*, fell near *George Picardo*'s vineyard, where it burſt, but did not do any damage. A ſplinter of another, which exploded in the air, ſtruck the ſouth end of the naval hoſpital, which is near four thouſand yards; a moſt incredible diſtance for pieces of ordnance to reach. The enemy fired very briſk upon our works from all the ordnance they have mounted; they did much damage to *Willis*'s *Battery*, and wounded Lieutenant *Evans*, an aſſiſtant engineer, though not dangerouſly.

The

The enemy continue their long-range ſhells upon the ſouthward, which is of great annoyance. Laſt night a ſhell fell under the platform of a tent where two corporals were aſleep, when the intolerable fume and ſtench of the burning compoſition awakened them, nor could they imagine from whence the ſmoke proceeded. The ſhell entered under the boards, when they opened the tent door to let in the air, to prevent being ſuffocated, at that inſtant it exploded and blew them ſome yards, without receiving any injury; they ſhortly recovered from their ſurprize, and turned their eyes to the place where the tent had ſtood, but the tent and tent-poles, &c. could not be ſeen, they being torn to pieces, and ſcattered in many places. In this naked ſituation they began a ſearch for their wearing apparel, but only found the cuff of a coat in one place, part of a ſleeve in another, and their ſhoes parched to a cinder. Thus forlorn they began to conſole each other, when Corporal *R-h-ds-n* exclaimed, *D—n it, I don't care for the loſs of my clothes, but all my money is gone!* 1781 Nov. 18th.

You probably will imagine, that a man who had ſo fortunately eſcaped ſuch imminent danger, would have been thankful to the all-ruling Power for his preſervation, and not inſtantaneouſly lament his pecuniary loſs; but the beſieged have been ſo long inured to the caſualties of battle, that its effect is little regarded. Should death be conſtantly held in view, it might ſomewhat tend to diſpoſſeſs the ſoldier of that ſpirit of heroiſm, ſo neceſſary for the buſineſs of fighting.

Came

1781 Nov. 21. Came in two deſerters from the enemy's *Walloon Guards*, one of them is a corporal, and ſeems to be an intelligent man. He ſays there are twenty-one thouſand men in the camp, waiting the arrival of the naval power, to ſtorm this place: he has given the General a clear and exact deſcription of the works on the iſthmus, and the conſtruction of *St. Carlos*, together with an account of the ſtrength of their guards and working parties, that are employed daily.

The enemy continue to throw their long rangers.* Laſt night a ſhell fell at the door of the barrack on the *Mole Parade*, where it exploded, forced the door open, and broke all the windows. The hand of Providence was viſible in the diſcharge of this ſhell, for, had it been a yard more to the left, it muſt have fallen into the barracks, where two companies of ſoldiers are quartered.

23d. The long rangers ſtill viſit the South. One fell in Colonel *Cochrane*'s quarters on *Scud-hill*, but did not do any damage: another near the magazine on the *Mole Parade*, and ſeveral into the *Mole Yard*, and within the boom. We keep a conſtant fire upon their works, but they are ſo well intrenched, that we cannot ſilence them.

26th. The enemy keep rattling away with guns and mortars, and ſeemingly take a pleaſure in reaching the ſouthward. Several ſhells have fallen this forenoon about *South Shed*, and *Princeſs of Wales's lines*: they cannot reach further

* A phraſe made uſe of by the ſoldiery, for the incredible length the enemy throw their ſhells.

ther only when there is a ſtrong northerly wind, which forces the ſhell with a greater velocity. We fired ſeveral times at their working parties on the iſthmus. 1781 Nov.

This evening, the garriſon were highly delighted with the general orders. It is whiſpered, that the information given by the corporal that came in the 21ſt inſtant, has induced the Governor to make a trial of *Britiſh* valour.

EVENING GARRISON ORDERS.

All the grenadiers and light-infantry, and all the men of the 12th, and Hardenberg's regiments, officers and non-commiſſioned officers, now on duty, to be immediately called in and join their regiments, to form a detachment, conſiſting of the 12th and Hardenberg's regiments, compleat—The grenadiers and light companies of all the other regiments (who are to be compleated to their full eſtabliſhment from the battalion companies) one captain, three licutenants, ten non-commiſſioned officers, and one hundred artillery, three engineers, ſeven officers overſeers, twelve non-commiſſioned overſeers, and one hundred and ſixty workmen from the line, excepting from the 12th and Hardenberg's regiments, and forty workmen from the artificer company—Each man to carry thirty-nine rounds or more, a good flint in his piece, and another in his pocket—No drums, except two with the 12th, and two with Hardenberg's—No ſwords—The whole to aſſemble on the Red Sands at twelve o'clock this night—The wine houſes to be ſhut up at ſix o'clock, and all the ſoldiers to repair to their quarters—Brigadier Roſs to command the detachment—No volunteers will be allowed—Lieutenant-Colonels Dackenhauſen, Hugo, Trigge, and Major

1781 Nov. 26th. *Major Maxwell, to meet the Governor at the Field Officers room, at the South, as ſoon as poſſible. The troops intended for the Sortee to be formed as follows :*

Right. Lieutenant-Colonel *Hugo*, Grenadiers of *Redens* and *La Mott*'s, Workmen, Artillery, *Hardenberg*'s Regiment, Light Company 56th Regiment.

Centre. Lieutenant-Colonel *Dackenhauſen*, Grenadiers and Light Company 39th and 73d Regiments, Workmen, Artillery, Grenadiers of the 56th and 58th Regiments, Major *Maxwell.*

Left. Lieutenant-Colonel *Trigge*, Grenadiers and Light Infantry 72d Regiment, Seamen, Artillery, 12th Regiment, Light Company 58th Regiment.

27th. This morning at two o'clock, the detachment of officers, non-commiſſioned officers and men, under the command of Brigadier-General *Roſs*, marched from the *Red Sands*, where they had aſſembled, through *Bay-ſide* and *Lower Forbes*'s, to ſtorm the enemy's advanced works—The word *ſteady* was the counterſign. The *Spaniſh* centinels, poſted in the Gardens, ſoon diſcovered the *Engliſh* troops advancing, upon which they fired their muſquets to ſpread the alarm, and then retreated to *St. Carlos.* The *Britiſh* army, in a ſpirited and intrepid manner, ruſhed on, and, after ſome oppoſition, gained poſſeſſion of the *Spaniſh* works, which ſtruck ſuch a panic to the enemy, that the greateſt part ſtationed to defend the place fled with conſternation to the lines,

lines, to make a position of defence, not apprehending so unexpected a visit, while the others fell from the fire of our musquetry. The business now commenced, the workmen and seamen began with their tomahawks,* devils §, and warlike combustables, to set the batteries on fire, while the artillery spiked up ten mortars, and eighteen pieces of cannon, during which one of the former happened to go off, and sent a shell to the southward; in a few minutes the isthmus appeared an entire blaze, from the fire of their consuming batteries, and the reflection of the light was so great, that a person could have read upon our batteries. Thus successful, the whole body gave three huzzas, which consequently must sensibly aggravate and vex the foe. We kept up a hot cannonade from the garrison, upon their two forts and *Barrier-gate*, to cover our men, and prevent their sallying out. A regiment of horse appeared near *Fort-Barbary*, but after they had made several feints to come on, they thought prudent to retire. The enemy fired upon the detachment with round and grape, but their cannon, for want of being sufficiently depressed, had not the desired effect, as most of the shot flew over our people's heads. Our gallant and veteran Governor, accompanied by Captain *Curtis*, went out to be an eye-witness of the transaction; and when the business was fully accomplished, he smilingly said to Captain *Curtis*, "*How beautiful the* 1781 Nov. 27th.

* Small hatchets, having a sharp point on the back.

§ An inflammable composition bound in small bundles, which, after the bands of the fascines are cut, are stuck in between the openings.

1781 Nov. 27th. *Rock appears by the light of the glorious fire.*" An officer and ſeveral *Spaniſh* ſoldiers were put to the ſword: an artillery officer was made priſoner attempting to eſcape with the keys of the powder magazines, which were immediately opened, to give the fire of the batteries a communication to the ammunition; after which the keys were delivered to our Governor on the iſthmus, by Captain *Whetham*, of the Royal Artillery.

The detachment having done all that men could do, retreated to the garriſon with the ſatisfaction of deſtroying, in fifteen minutes, a work eſtimated at three million of dollars, bringing with them priſoners, one ſub-lieutenant of Walloon Guards, (Baron *Helmſtat*) one ſub-lieutenant of Artillery, and ten Men: with the ſmall loſs on our ſide of four men killed, one officer, (Lieutenant *Tweedie* of the 12th Foot, who received a grape-ſhot in his thigh) two ſerjeants and twenty-two men wounded, and one man miſſing. The enemy had only recovered their ſurprize, and beat to arms, when the detachment was repaſſing off *Lambert-gate*, ſo that you will ſay we were expeditious in deſtruction. Several of the *Spaniſh* powder magazines blew up after the retreat of the *Britiſh* troops.

The General expreſſed the greateſt approbation of the officers and men, which you will perceive by the following

GARRISON ORDERS.

The bravery and conduct of the whole detachment, officers, ſeamen, and ſoldiers, on this glorious occaſion, impreſſes the Governor's utmoſt acknowledgments.

STATE

STRENGTH OF THE DETACHMENT THAT MADE THE SORTEE.

		Officers.	Non-commiss. Officers.	Drummers.	Rank and File.
RIGHT. Lt. Colonel *Hugo.*	*Reden*'s Grenadiers.	5	7	0	71
	La Mott's ditto.	3	7	0	71
	Workmen & Artillery	5	4	0	50
	Hardenberg's Regt.	16	34	2	296
	56th Light Infantry.	3	3	0	57
CENTRE. Lt. Col. *Dackenhausen,* Major *Maxwell.*	39th Grenadiers. - -	3	3	0	57
	39th Light Infantry.	3	3	0	57
	Workmen & Artillery	6	8	0	150
	73d Grenadiers. - -	4	5	0	101
	73d Light Infantry. -	4	5	0	101
	56th Grenadiers. - -	3	3	0	57
	58th ditto. - - -	3	3	0	57
LEFT. Lieut. Col. *Trigge.*	72d Grenadiers. - -	4	5	0	101
	72d Light Infantry. -	4	5	0	101
	Seamen. - - - -	3	10	0	100
	12th Regiment. - -	26	28	2	430
	58th Light Infantry.	3	3	0	57
	Total	68	136	4	1914

STATE of the GARRISON at the time of the SORTEE.

	Colonels.	Lt. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Enfigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quar. Matters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Serjeants.	Drummers and Fifers	Rank and File.
Detachment compoſed the SORTEE.	1	3	3	26	58	14	0	3	0	0	2	136	4	1914
Sick and wounded. - - - -	0	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	28	6	557
Remained. - - - - - - - -	5	5	5	45	73	31	3	7	8	9	14	277	179	2531
Total of the Garriſon.	6	8	8	72	132	46	3	10	8	9	16	441	189	5002

N. B. Brevet Majors are included as Captains; non-commiſſioned officers of Artillery as Serjeants. Forty-one Drummers, and fifty-one privates, of what remained in the Garriſon were boys.

CASUALS

in the differeent Corps in before-mentioned *Sortee*.

CORPS.	KILLED.				WOUNDED.				Missing.
	Officers.	Serjeants.	Drummers.	Rank and File.	Officers.	Serjeants.	Drummers.	Rank and File.	
R. Artillery.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
12th Regt.	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0
39th. —	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
56th. —	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
58th. —	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
72d. —	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
73d. —	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0
Hardenberg's	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	11	0
Reden's —	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
La Mott's —	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Artificer camp.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Seamen.	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5	0
Total	0	0	0	4	1	2	0	22	1

1731 Nov. 28th. The enemy's works burnt very furiouſly all yeſterday afternoon and nihgt, and are ſtill on fire. They laſt night fired very warm, with grape ſhot, on the iſthmus, ſuppoſing we were again advancing, until a ſhell diſcharged from the upper batteries on *St. Carlos* convinced them that we had not any men there. A large body of men yeſterday evening marched from their camp to the lines, to reinforce the different poſts, apprehending we ſhould pay them a viſit in that quarter.

GARRISON ORDERS.

The Adjutant-General having laid before the Governor the following note from Brigadier-General Roſs, he is pleaſed to direct that the ſame ſhall be inſerted in the orders of the day.

Brigadier Roſs begs of the Adjutant-General, that he would mention to the Governor his moſt humble requeſt, that his Excellency would be pleaſed to accept of the Brigadier's warmeſt acknowledgment of the great honor conferred on him, by commanding the detachment that formed the Sortee. To the Officers, and every one of whom, he would wiſh to make the moſt public avowal *of their firm good behaviour on the occaſion.*

30th. The enemy yeſterday and to-day have been viewing the aſhes of their late works, and with penitential tears, moaning their irretrievable loſs, and endleſs diſgrace. We keep up a ſmart fire at preſent, and it is aſſerted, that it will be continued, to prevent the enemy from repairing the damage their batteries have received. General *Alvarez*, there is not any doubt

doubt, will ſtudy miſchief in retaliation, and exert all his intellectual faculties in the promotion of plans, projects, ſtratagems, and inventions, to gain revenge; but while ſucceſs ſmiles upon our arms, and glory ſounds from ſhore to ſhore, the tranſporting melody inſpires with deſperate animation, and invigorates the warrior's zeal to ſuch a degree, that fleets, armies, camps, garriſons, forts, batteries, and intrenchments, with all the hoſtile pomp and threatnings of the foe, are diſregarded, and ſtamped with contempt. 1781 Nov. 30th.

I am,

Dear Brother,

With the greateſt affection,

Yours, &c.

LETTER XXIVII.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

THE enemy have not begun repairing their late approaches, but ſeemingly intend it, as ſeveral parties unarmed frequently make their appearance. They return a ſpirited fire from their lines and forts, but their iſthmus bombardment, *alas! is over.* Dec.

Wind W. S. W. Three men of war, convoying twenty-one ſail of merchantmen paſſed through 3d

1781 Dec. through from the Weſtward. About thirty ſail to the Eaſtward attempting alſo to paſs to the Weſtward, but were forced to put back.— It is conjectured they are both *French* convoys.

7th. Wind S. W. This day an *Engliſh* cutter was captured by the enemy's gun boats, after an hour's ſpirited fire on both ſides. She crouded all the ſail ſhe poſſibly could, but the wind having dropped almoſt to a calm, the garriſon and ſhipping were incapable of aſſiſting her.

9th. Wind E. This forenoon two frigates (one *French* and one *Spaniſh*) arrived from the Eaſtward at *Algaziras*; and this afternoon about a dozen large ſettees arrived at the *Orange Grove*. The enemy have done nothing particular on the iſthmus.

11th. This morning we perceived the *Spaniards* had begun repairing the ruins of *St. Carlos*, and that ſeveral parties were buſily employed. We accordingly diſcharged a conſiderable quantity of grape ſhot and ſmall ſhells upon them, which made them deſiſt from their labour.

A ſmall ſloop was this forenoon taken off *Tariſa*, by a galley and three gun boats. It is likely that ſhe was bound for this place.

13th. Wind N. E. Laſt night ſailed the *Unicorn*, cutter, for *England*, the breeze being very ſtiff, ſuppoſed ſhe got through the gut.

14th. The *Phœnix* cutter, yeſterday morning ſlipped out of *New Mole*, and proceeded on her paſſage to *England*. The breeze was favourable from the Eaſt. The enemy have not detached any cruizers to the Weſtward, probably they conſider theſe two cutters not worth the purſuit.

The

The *Spaniards* occaſionally labour at repair- 1781
ing their works. but when they obſerve the Dec.
flaſh of our ordnance, they immediately get 19th.
under cover, but we endeavour to annoy them with our ſmall ſhells, which drop into their works, and then burſt: theſe conſequently muſt be fatal to them, as their traverſes were all conſumed together with the gabions and faſcines of all their advanced works The Spaniards continue their uſual fire both by day and night.

Wind W. During the courſe of the night, 20th.
two veſſels arrived with ſupplies of butter, potatoes, and beef, from *Portſmouth*, having had a paſſage of twenty days. They bring intelligence, that the day before they left *Faro*, they heard the accounts of the victorious ſally from the garriſon, papers having been received there upon the intereſting ſubject.

Several bundles of faſcines were brought from the lines to the iſthmus laſt night, and the ſand thrown up in many places. The enemy apparently have forgot their defeat, and that they ever had erected advanced works; or ſurely the recollection would prevent them from any further attempts to conſtruct others in their place.

Laſt night, it being a briſk Levanter, Major 21ſt.
General *Roſs* (appointed to that rank by His Majeſty's command, and declared in the Garriſon orders of yeſterday) ſailed from hence on his paſſage to *Portugal*, from whence he will take ſhipping for *England*, where there is not the leaſt doubt but he will be received with eclat; and every mark of approbation,

from

1781 from a grateful nation, for his bravery and
Dec. ſingular ſervice, on the 27th of laſt *November*.

21ſt. The *Spaniards* are very buſy on the iſthmus, and have repaired a great part of the ruins of their late works:—They ſeem determined on their re-conſtruction, notwithſtanding our heavy and ſpirited fire from *Willis's* and the upper batteries. The *Black Battery* and *Fort St. Phillippe* kept up an inceſſant cannonade all this morning upon the garriſon.

23d. Wind E. Arrived a frigate, ſloop, cutter, and ſeveral xebecs from the eaſtward, and anchored between *Orange-Grove* and *Algaziras*. A ſettee was taken off *Ceuta* point, by a galley, and carried in there.

24th. Wind W. N. W. Paſſed by a convoy of neutrals, in all about 30 ſail.—The enemy hoiſted a ſignal at *Cabritta*, not knowing who they were, upon which a xebec went out and ſpoke to them.

29th. This morning early, died in the naval hoſpital, Baron *Helmſtat*, taken priſoner at *St Carlos*, on the 27th laſt month, and who ſince had a leg amputated, owing to a wound he received by a muſquet-ball in that action. The corps was dreſſed in full uniform, according to the *Spaniſh* cuſtom, and the General and principal officers, walked in ſolemn proceſſion to the *New-Mole*, where a flag of truce waited to convey the body to the *Orange-Grove*: A band of muſic playing a dirge, and a company of grenadiers, eſcorted the decorated bier to the water's edge, and upon the corpſe being lowered into the boat, the latter fired three volleys in honor of the deceaſed. The coffin had all that art and ingenuity could invent, to render it elegant,

grant, which muſt ſenſibly pleaſe the enemy, 1781
when they conſider the reſpect paid by the Dec.
Governor to this fallen officer. He was young, 29th.
handſome, and on the point of nuptial celebration with a young lady, born in the province of *Andaluſia*, and who, during his ſickneſs, had furniſhed him (by flags of truce) with wine and other refreſhing diet, which this garriſon could not afford; but the day before his deceaſe, ſhe came half bay over, (hearing of his dangerous ſituation) to viſit him, and take her laſt adieu! but the Adjutant-General, who went to receive the flag of truce, aſſured her, ſhe could not be permitted to land until the Governor's pleaſure was known, and that the next day he would wait upon her with his Excellency's command; inſtead of which, ſhe received the lifeleſs trunk of him on whom her every wiſh and happineſs was founded.

The enemy are diligently repairing the 30th.
works on the iſthmus,—a ſhell fired from *Willis*'s, this day, fell among a party of their workmen, about 50 or 60 in number, which we have the greateſt reaſon to believe did conſiderable miſchief. The *Spaniſh* forts and lines continue the cannonade and bombardment.—One ſoldier killed and two wounded this day, by the exploſion of a ſhell.

A briſk fire on both ſides continues, and 31ſt.
the enemy keep conſtantly at work.—A ſtrong party are employed near the *Centre-ſtone Guard Houſe*, erecting a battery. The naval force remains quiet, nor have we been troubled with the gun and mortar-boats ſome time paſt.

This

1781 Dec. This year has finiſhed without giving the deciſive ſtroke, though it has been ſucceſsful on our part, and crowned our arms with glory and conqueſt.

I remain,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately Yours.

LETTER XXVIII.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

1782 Jan. 1. AS all my letters are intended for your information, I ſhall endeavour, as far as I am able, to give you a deſcription of this envied and battered Rock, which has excited the whole attention of *Spain* and *France*.

GIBRALTAR is in 36 degrees 7 minutes north latitude, it projects into the ſea, and is in length near a league from north to ſouth; in breadth irregular from half to three quarters of a mile; its head is frequently hid in the clouds. The ſummit of the Rock is about 1400 feet perpendicular above the ſea. It is joined to the continent by a neck of low and deep ſand of the ſame breadth as the Rock itſelf, but which widens conſiderably towards the *Spaniſh* lines. This iſthmus is near a league in length, and, with the oppoſite coaſt, forms a noble and ſafe bay eight miles over.

The

The hill is of ſuch an irregular form, that when you are near it you cannot view the whole from any one part. Its head clearly faces the Eaſt, from thence to the *Mooriſh Caſtle* it fronts the north forward as far as the *Signal Houſe*, the North-weſt, it then takes a turn and continues to *Europa Point* due South. On account of this oblique ſituation, when you approach the town from the inundation, you can ſee no farther of the Rock than the *Mooriſh Caſtle*, and even in town your ſight is bounded by the old *Mooriſh Wall* [called by ſome *Charles* the Fifth's] After you have paſſed *Southport Gate*, and got upon the red ſands, the town is hid from you, and all the hill to the North of the *Signal Houſe*. The back of the hill is ſcalped and inacceſſible, and this particular circumſtance forms its chief ſtrength. The head of the Rock is almoſt perpendicular, and compoſed of white ſtone which is burnt for lime. The batteries facing the iſthmus are very ſtrong and ſnug, which are carried on from the ſummit of the Rock, to the water's edge at the *Old Mole*, the extremity of which the *Spaniards* term *Una Bocca de Fugo*. The remains of the *Mooriſh Caſtle* are cloſe to the batteries, at which place is the entrance into the lines; above the lines is *Willis*'s and the upper batteries. Under the caſtle are two batteries, near *Crouchett*'s houſe and gardens, lower down, and almoſt level with the water, is the Grand Battery, under which is *Landport*. Above the ruins of the town appear the walls of the army hoſpital, from which you have a view of the remains of *Bethlehem* barrack, formerly a nunnery, the *White* 1782 Jan. 1.

1782 Jan. 1. *White Cloiſters* where the commiſſioners of the navy uſed to reſide, formerly a monaſtery, and *St. Francis* where the Governor reſides: The building, before the enemy fired, was plain, more convenient than elegant, but pleaſantly ſituated near the bay, with a garden adjoining. The *Britiſh* church is adjacent to this building, but now divine ſervice is performed on the *South Parade*, on account of the enemy's cannonade. The *Spaniſh* church for the performance of the Roman Catholic Religion was near the *Grand Parade* in the *Green Market*, the walls of which are yet ſtanding. The inhabitants and ſoldiers repair to church by the beat of a drum. Near *Southport* ſtands the King's yard Grand ſtore, and Victualling-office, which, notwithſtanding the enemy's bombardment, has not ſuffered any conſiderable injury. Above *Southport*, on the outſide of the gate is the citadel. The garriſon is bounded by ſtrong walls, and ſeveral well-executed batteries, particularly the *King's*, *South*, *Montague's Baſtion*, *and Grand Battery*. The *King's Baſtion* is able to contain one thouſand men, being bomb proof, and is of a noble conſtruction, planned by General *Boyde*, when Governor of the garriſon.

The entrance to the garriſon from the iſthmus, is ſo narrow, that it is impoſſible to march an army more than ſix men abreaſt; and which paſſage is undermined,* ſo that, if neceſſity ſhould require it to be charged with barrels of

* A mine is a hole dug, to be filled with powder to blow it up, but this is built with brick, and arched over, ſo that the exploſion would be the greater.

of powder, and ſprung, the beſiegers would ſuffer conſiderably, and be thrown into the greateſt confuſion. There are ſeveral pieces of cannon directed upon this path, loaded with grape-ſhot, which would ſcour the whole length, and cut off the aſſailants as faſt as they advanced. The cannon placed at the *Old Mole-Head*, being level with the water, would ſweep the whole iſthmus; beſides other pieces of ordnance placed in advantageous ſituations for the purpoſe of flanking.* 1782 Jan. 1.

The principal buildings to the ſouthward are, the *Naval Hoſpital*, now occupied by the ſick ſoldiery and ſeamen; the *Barracks* for the troops, and two *Pavilions* for Officers; they are chiefly built of ſtone, and well ſuited for convenience; the rooms are large and airy, and have a handſome appearance from the Bay.

Near the *New Mole* are two magazines for powder, where it is lodged when landed from the ſhips, and as it is wanted, removed from thence to the *Grand Magazine* in the *Mooriſh Caſtle*. Near them is a pleaſant vineyard, of a ſmall length, which yields a great quantity of vegetables, but not ſufficient to ſupply a ſixteenth part of the garriſon. It is ſuppoſed that the owner clears five thouſand dollars per annum by it.—There are ſeveral houſes on the heights that have been built by the officers and inhabitants, which command a delightful proſpect of the Bay and the Gut; in ſhort, moſt of the ſouthward is covered with ſmall and convenient dwellings.

The

* In military affairs, is the ſide of an army or battalion.

1782 Jan. 1. The garriſon is abundantly ſupplied with water from the rain which deſcends from the heights of the Rock, through a body of ſand and lime-ſtone, into a reſervoir; this contains the annual ſupply till the next rainy ſeaſon, which is towards the latter end of the year.—The ſhipping are ſupplied from this reſervoir, by the means of pipes, which communicate near the ſea, where there is a ſmall ciſtern with ſpouts. The Faculty agree in opinion that it is good wholeſome water.

The following is the STATE of the STRENGTH of the ſeveral CORPS now here.

CORPS.	Strength.	CORPS.	Strength.
Royal Artillery	480	73d.	811
12th.	469	Hardenberg's	345
39th.	448	Reden's	347
56th.	450	La Mott's	356
58th.	450	Artificer's Comp.	89
72d.	811		
		Total	5056

4th. Wind Eaſt. This morning early the *St. Philip's Caſtle* arrived here from *Mahon* with diſpatches, having twenty-two *Spaniſh* priſoners on board, taken by the *Engliſh* in a ſally made from that place. They ſay that General *Murray* is very cloſely beſieged, and that the forces under his command, make the moſt ſtubborn oppoſition againſt both the *French* and *Spaniſh* troops who lay before the Caſtle.

The enemy on the iſthmus keep repairing their works, and have got a great part rebuilt.

The

The fire on each ſide briſkly continues, but moſt ſpirited from the cloſe of the evening until the dawn of the morning, as the chief part of their labours are executed during the night-ſeaſon. 1782 Jan.

A xebec arrived from the eaſtward this forenoon, and anchored oppoſite *Sandy Bay*.—The working-parties on the iſthmus have not done any thing particular ſince the 4th inſt. 8th.

Laſt night the *St. Philip's Caſtle* ſailed to the eaſtward, and a ſmall boat for *Tetuan*, in order to fetch ſupplies. All quiet in the Bay: We cannot imagine the reaſon that the enemy are not ſo alert and attentive as they were. 10th.

Wind E. Sailed the *Henry* and *Mercury* privateers to the weſt. None of the *Spaniſh* cruizers went in chace of them. The enemy threw up a branch of ſand-work laſt night upon the iſthmus. 13th.

This day two cutters made their appearance in the Gut. Wind N. E. The tower at *Cabritta* let fly a ſignal, upon which the *Spaniſh* ſquadron got in motion, conſiſting of a frigate, one large xebec, one ſmaller ditto, ſeveral gun-boats, and ſtood acroſs to intercept them. The gun-boats got a-head, and diſcharged ſeveral ſhot at them, which the cutters returned, and kept their courſe, ſtanding for the eaſtward, it being impracticable to work the port, as the wind blew right againſt them. The *Spaniſh* cruizers went in chace, and are now all out of ſight. The works on the iſthmus are going forward. 16th.

Antonio Juanico, a *Minorquen*, who arrived here in a ſettee ſome time paſt, is convicted of having come for the purpoſe of procuring in- 17th.

1782 telligence for the *Spaniſh* General, and ordered
Jan. for execution on the 4th of February enſuing.

18th. The enemy fire upon us with great fury, to prevent our annoying their working parties. Several wounded this afternoon.

20th. The town and ſouthward regiments exchanged quarters this morning, to continue three months before another exchange takes place, unleſs circumſtances ſhould make it neceſſary.

23d. The iſthmus parties are laboriouſly employed in forwarding their works, and an inceſſant fire is kept up from the *Spaniſh* lines and forts, upon our works and parties on the hill, as we are repairing the breaches made, and conſtructing ſome additional fortification to ſhelter our men, and to deſtroy, if poſſible, the enemy's approaches.

26th. Pleaſant wheather. The enemy appear to be buſy at *Algaziras*, and in the rivers. We imagine they are conſtructing additional gunboats there, to co-operate with thoſe they already have. Iſthmus working parties continue nightly to be employed.

29th. Wind S. E. The two cutters chaſed to the eaſtward by the enemy on the 16th inſtant, arrived early this morning: they prove to be the *Viper* and *Lively*, laden with ordnance ſtores; alſo arrived the *Dartmouth Tartar* cutter, laſt from *Liſbon* in three days, with diſpatches. A frigate, xebec, and ſome gunboats have returned from their vain purſuit in chaſe of the *Viper* and *Lively*, mortified with having miſſed their eager prey, and anchored at their old ſtation, watching every ſail that appears in ſight. The enemy are preparing ſe-

veral

veral fire-ſhips at the mouth of the rivers be- 1782
tween *Algaziras* and *Orange Grove*, but for Jan.
what purpoſe we really cannot conjecture, 29th.
without it is for paſtime, and the recreation of their naval and land-forces, by reminding them that they are inclinable to do miſchief, though incapable of effecting it. Our ſhipping are all boomed in, and without they intend to burn the clefts of the Rock, and ſet our ſandy beach on fire, they had better keep their preſent diſtance, nor unthinkingly ruſh on, where certain ruin muſt be the conſequence. Our garriſon are pretty healthy, conſidering the hardſhips, dangers, and ſcarcity of freſh diet, which at preſent prevails; but of late, they have been very much afflicted with the moſt inveterate ſcurvy, which deprived many of the uſe of their limbs, by rendering them ſtiff and ſwelled. The fleſh of the ſufferers, I aſſure you, was almoſt black; and you would pity (were you a ſpectator) to view them limping to their poſt, to partake of a ſhare with their comrades in oppoſing the foe. With every good wiſh, permit me to ſubſcribe myſelf

Your loving Brother.

LETTER XXIX.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

1782 Feb. 1. THE beſiegers, ſpurred on by hope and expectation, to work the reduction of the fortreſs, are indefatigably employed in forwarding the re-conſtruction of *St. Carlos*, and the adjacents. From their batteries they continue a plentiful diſcharge of ordnance, by which we now and then loſe a man. We anxiouſly long for the day of attack, as our ſituation is rather deplorable in reſpect of proviſion, and the harraſſing duties of guards, picquets, working detachments, and parties, forwards the general wiſh for engagement. The conſtant duty with the ſoldiery is ten and eleven days and nights up, and probably when it comes to your turn to have a night to ſleep in your tent, the enemy from the ſea-line diſturbs you from repoſe.

Prices of Proviſion brought by the Viper and Lively cutters, on the 29th of laſt month.

	£.		
Common Green Tea *per lb.* -	1	1	0
Hams per ditto - - - - - -	0	3	3
Corned Beef ditto - - - - -	0	1	8
Port Wine *per dozen* - - - - -	1	14	5
A ſheep - - - - - - - - -	14	1	0
Cheeſe *per lb.* - - - - - - -	0	4	10h
Butter ditto - - - - - - -	0	4	10h

The enemy carry on their works in a rapid manner. They laſt night erected a battery of five embrazures on the weſt ſide of the *Mill-Tower*;

Tower; St. Carlos, by what we can diſcern from the heights of the Rock, appears to have received a complete repair. Our batteries endeavour, as much as poſſible, to prevent the executing of their labours on the iſthmus. 1782 Feb. 4th.

Antonio Juanico, ordered for execution this day, is reſpited. Arrived from the weſtward two ſmall veſſels from *Portugal*, laden with lemons and oranges, a very refreſhing ſupply.

A ſmall boat, that appeared off *Cabritta-Point*, was fired at ſeveral times from the battery at that place, but without effect; upon this a *Spaniſh* lugger got under ſail, endeavouring to cut her off, but to very little purpoſe, as the boat had nearly anchored before ſhe had got half-bay over. She proves to be from *Liſbon*, laden with fruit and oranges. 6th.

The enemy's cruizers have been particularly buſy all this day, running in and out alternately. We imagine they have received intimation of ſome veſſel bound for this place. They on the land ſide keep working and firing. 10th.

Wind N. E. Arrived ſafe, the *Young Sabine*, with porter, wine, and potatoes. Our men of war's boats towed her round *Europa*. It is confidently aſſerted, that ſhe has brought intelligence to the Governor of a very intereſting nature, but we cannot learn the particulars. The *Spaniſh* cruizers were diſappointed in miſſing the capture of this veſſel, as all their attempts to effect it were rendered ineffectual. 13th.

Arrived the brig *Eliza*, with ſundry articles on board, for the uſe of the garriſon. The *Spaniſh* cruizers, who returned yeſterday evening

1782 Feb. 16th. ing to *Algaziras*, made a ſignal too late, to do themſelves any ſervice: they are cruiſing in the Bay and round the Rock, but keep at long-gun ſhot diſtance; they came near *Europa*, but a few ſhot from that poſt made them ſteer another courſe.

The *Spaniſh* works are briſkly forwarded, the iſthmus is almoſt become a ſcene of enchantment: the enemy certainly muſt employ a conſiderable number of men, or otherwiſe they could not make ſuch rapid progreſs in their advances

17th. Wind N. W. This morning a ſail appeared ſtanding from the weſtward; the *Spaniſh* towers let fly a ſignal of an enemy's appearance; a frigate, xebec, and ſeveral gun-boats, immediately got under way, while the battery at *Cabritta-point* fired ſeveral rounds. The xebec bore down, when the *Engliſh* veſſel opened upon her, and made her haul her wind, and ſoon afterwards ſhe dropped aſtern, the frigate and gun-boats then ſtood acroſs to intercept her, which ſhe as ſpiritedly engaged, receiving two broad-ſides from the frigate, and ſeveral rounds from the gun-boats. After having engaged a conſiderable time, ſuch a ſuperior force, ſhe had the good fortune to get in without much damage, and proves to be the *Flying-fiſh* cutter, commanded by Captain *Anthony*, in eight days from *England*, laden with ordnance ſtores. Some of the enemy's boats being drove very near the garriſon, the batteries at *Europa* diſcharged a few ſhot at them, but plying their oars briſkly, they got off without any injury. The various manœuvres of the latter, afforded the garriſon much entertainment.

Wind

Wind S. W. Laſt night a brig from the weſtward entered the Bay, obſerving the lights in the *Spaniſh* camp, ſteered for that place, imagining it muſt have been the town of *Gibraltar*. The captain continued his courſe till he came oppoſite to *Prince Orange's battery*, when the officer on duty there challenged the ſhip, who anſwered, "*From Cork.*" The captain now diſcovered his error, and finding he was ſteering under the enemy's batteries, put about, and run aground at the back of the *Old Mole*, when *Fort Phillippe* and the *Black-Battery* began a fire upon her. The captain, when he landed, in a jocular manner endeavoured to apologize for the miſtake, by ſaying, he intended to run his ſhip up to his merchant's ſtore-houſe. She has brought a ſupply of butter, pork, and potatoes, which is intended to be landed, if poſſible, this night. Her name is the *Governor Elliot* brig, *Samuel Seldon*, Maſter. 1782 Feb. 18th.

This morning we obſerved a battery of 12 embrazures conſtructed on the iſthmus, and in other parts the ſand was thrown up as a cover. The enemy fired very warmly on the *Governor Elliot* brig, and have greatly damaged her—part of the cargo has been landed. A briſk fire continues on both ſides. 20th.

A *Portugueze* ſchooner from the weſt, was taken between *Tarifa* and *Cabritta-point*, and brought into *Algaziras*, where there is not any doubt ſhe will be condemned. The wind having ſprung up eaſterly, a *Tartan* arrived from *Leghorn*, with a cargo of wine and uſeful neceſſaries. Several gun-boats alſo arrived from the eaſt; we imagine them to be the remainder that chaſed the two cutters on the 16th of *January*.

Wind E

1782 Feb. 21ſt. Wind E. Sailed laſt night from hence the *Viper*, *Lively*, and *Dartmouth Tartar* cutters. About an hour afterwards the *Spaniſh* towers were illuminated, and a number of rockets thrown up. The enemy keep hard and conſtantly at work on the iſthmus.

23d. Wind W. This morning the ſhipping at *Algaziras* was dreſſed with full colours, at noon a *feu de joye* was fired by land and ſea, and repeated three times.

A ſhip appeared in the Offing, ſtanding for this place, when a frigate and xebec made ready. She continued her courſe, and received their fire with great intrepidity, plying her guns in an heroic manner. After about an hour's fire ſhe got in, and proves to be the *Mercury* ſtore-ſhip, Captain *Heighington*, from *Liſbon*, with wine, poultry, and fruit.

24th. Wind W. Arrived at *Algaziras* from the weſtward, a frigate, two xebecs, and two cutters, as a reinforcement to the *Spaniſh* ſquadron. The *Spaniſh* working parties are buſily employed.

25th. Wind W. Arrived the *St. Ann* of 28 guns, in twelve days from *London*, with ordnance ſtores. Not any particular intelligence received, except that ſhe was chaſed ſome leagues to the weſtward, and eſcaped during the night.

28th. Wind E. Arrived the *Indian King*, from *Leghorn*, with timber and liquors, a briſk fire on both ſides was kept up. The enemy continue laborioufly working on the iſthmus, forwarding, with all poſſible expedition, their new approaches. The neareſt branch is almoſt in a line with the north angle of *Landport Garden*.

Your affectionate Brother.

LETTER XXX.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

THE victors of one day are often defeated by another, and loſe thoſe laurels that were carried in triumph from the field of ſlaughter. The fate of *Minorca* was announced here this morning, by a flag of truce from the *Orange-Grove*, with the intelligence of that fortreſs having ſurrendered to His Catholic Majeſty's forces, and that the *feu de joye*, fired on the 23d of February, was in celebration of the conqueſt. It is not improbable but the enemy entertain lively notions of this place, and imagine that this piece of information may tend to depreſs our ſpirits, and facilitate a ſpeedy ſurrender. 1782 Mar. 1

We kept up a very hot fire all the afternoon, and ſet the enemy's works in a blaze, which they extinguiſhed ſhortly afterwards.

This morning our batteries directed their fire upon the enemy's advanced works on the iſthmus, when a heavy and inceſſant cannonade was ſpiritedly maintained between the enemy and garriſon, till nine o'clock, during which time we had the fortune to ſet their works on fire again. The foe manifeſted a valour, and in an intrepid manner jumped upon the glacis, pouring baſkets of ſand upon the flames, when, after much difficulty and danger, they got the fire extenguiſhed. 2d.

Wind E.

1781 Wind E. Laſt night the *Flying-Fiſh* cutter,
Mar. ſailed to the weſtward with diſpatches. The
4th. enemy keep advancing their approaches towards the garriſon. The cannonade but ſlack theſe two days.

5th. Arrived the *Pearl Canario*, *Patron Prats*, from *Algiers*, with ſheep and wine, the former ſells at an exorbitant price.

A frigate from the eaſtward arrived this morning at *Algaziras*.—Several veſſels at *Orange Grove*, are diſcharging ordnance ſtores, camp equipage, &c.—The reduction of the Iſland of *Minorca*, apparently has put the enemy in high ſpirits, as appearances in their camp, beſpeak preparations for a reinforcement of troops. The enemy have redoubled the cannonade upon the garriſon, and the advanced works are conſiderably lengthened: the next turn of the laſt branch will bring the line nearly to the centre of the Gardens. Our fire muſt be very diſtreſſing to them, they being ſo near to the Rock;—the ſmall ſhells are diſtributed in abundance on their parties.

6th. One of the *Spaniſh* frigates ſailed to the eaſtward: and this afternoon, the wind having ſhifted, another ſtood to the weſtward. A xebec and a cutter having approached too near the Rock, was fired at by our Prams, and obliged to bear away for *Algaziras*.

9th. The enemy keep working and moderately firing, by which Lieutenant *Cuppage*, of the Royal Artillery, was this day wounded: all quiet on the ſea ſide.

10th. The enemy indicate freſh preparations for the enſuing ſtorm, ſeveral parties being employed this morning in clearing ground for a reinforce-

reinforcement of troops. A number of tents are already pitched. A xebec, which came near the garriſon, had ſeveral rounds fired at her, which compelled her to ſheer off. We diſcharged a number of carcaſſes upon the enemy's iſthmus works, with an intent to burn them, but did not meet with the completion of our wiſhes. The gun-boats cover the face of the Bay, and lay upon their oars. Parties continue employed in pitching tents, and clearing ground in the *Spaniſh* camp. 1782 Mar. 10th.

The enemy work moſt aſſiduouſly, and have raiſed a very high and well-planned breaſt-work, ſuppoſed by our engineers and artillerists to be intended for a mortar-battery. 16th.

This day arrived at *Algaziras* a frigate from the weſtward, but no ſalute was given.

The enemy's fire theſe three days has been particularly ſpirited, by which we had ſome few wounded, among whom is Lieutenant *White*, of the 56th regiment. Our batteries are now bravely playing upon the foe.

Wind S. Two frigates having come within the reach of our prams, anchored off the *New-Mole*; they began a well-directed and furious fire upon them. One of the frigates, it was obſerved, received ſeveral ſhot. 17th.

Our fiſhing-boats were drove out of the Bay this morning by a xebec, who kept a gentle ſail, until, by her repeated firings, ſhe made them all retreat to the ſhore. The inhumanity of this act is better to be conceived than expreſſed. The *Spaniards* are forwarding their works, and diſcharging their ordnance upon us. 18th.

The

1782 Mar. 19th. The Governor has ordered the bridge at *Landport* to be pulled down, and the communication to that poſt will be through the ſallyport in the ditch,* where there is to be a temporary ſtage made, for the purpoſe of detachments paſſing and repaſſing from the covered-way, and out-guards. Alſo one of the ſlopes, by which the guards and centinels now aſcend to their poſts, is to be levelled. An encampment was began this morning on the weſt of the *Orange Grove*. We expect the ſiege will quickly come to an iſſue, from the preparations making by the foe.

We obſerved this morning, that the enemy had begun an encampment for cavalry, in the rear of the grand magazine, weſt of *Orange-Grove*.

22d. Laſt night, about eleven o'clock, a mill on *Windmill-hill*, conſtructed for the purpoſe of grinding wheat ſent over from *Britain*, by ſome means took fire, and was conſumed. The enemy are very buſy with ſome ſhipping, which is imagined are intended for *fire-floats*.

24th. Wind W. Laſt night arrived the *Vernon* ſtore-ſhip, with materials for gun-boats, what we have long wiſhed for. The *Succeſs* frigate eſcorted her to latitude 36, when ſhe left her, and returned to *England*. The *Succeſs*, on her paſſage took the *Santa Catalina*, a *Spaniſh* frigate, who afterwards was burnt on the appearance of the *Cerberus* and *Apollo* frigates (ſuſpecting them to be enemies) and four tranſports, that came in alſo during the night, having

* A door in a Baſtion and Battery, for the purpoſe of making a ſally, unexpectedly, on the beſiegers.

ing on board the 97th regiment, as a reinforce- 1782
ment to the garriſon. Mar.

Three very large ſhips, and four xebecs, arrived at *Algaziras*, imagined to be laden with ſtores and proviſion.

This day our flag of truce carried to *Orange* 25th.
Grove ſome officers and men, put on board the *Vernon*, belonging to the *Santa Catalina* frigate. The enemy continue their uſual working parties. From ten o'clock laſt night, till day-break this morning, a briſk fire was maintained with determined reſolution, between forts *Barbary*, *Phillippe*, and the batteries on the heights of the hill. One ſhot from the enemy this day wounded four men—all in a dangerous way.

The enemy's ſhips and forts fired ſeveral 30th.
rounds alternately. It is ſuppoſed the rejoicing is (on account of this being Paſſion-Saturday) in celebration of our Saviour's reſurrection. The *Spaniſh* working parties have not done any quantity of work to-day.

This morning the batteries at *Willis*'s and 31ſt.
Montague's *Baſtion*, opened with martial rage upon the iſthmus works. Wind N. W. a very freſh breeze. Shot and ſhells were inceſſantly diſcharged, when one of the latter having penetrated into the faſcines, immediately ſet that part in a flame, which continued burning until about thirty yards was conſumed. The flames ſpread in a rapid manner, and the enemy did all they could to prevent the progreſs of the fire, nor could they extinguiſh it by any means, but was under the neceſſity of cutting an opening, as the only remedy to ſecure their approaches from being again deſtroyed.

The

1782 March The troops in the camp of *Santa Roque* came out of their tents to view the ſpirited action, while only the flaſh of guns, and exploding ſhells were to be ſeen; the iſthmus, and northernmoſt part of the Rock being hid with the clouds of ſmoke.

Sincerely your's,

LETTER XXXI.

"Who like the Cur barks at the croud that paſſes?"

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

April 1 SUCH is the diſpoſition of our invererate and malignant foes, every ſhip, ſettee, or bark that appears, immediately a gun is diſcharged, and a cruizer ſent out to interrogate, "*From whence come ye, or where are you bound?*" A *Swediſh* veſſel was brought into *Algaziras* yeſterday evening for not bringing to, upon a gun being fired from a double galley off the Point.

Arrived a veſſel from *Portugal*, with ninety ſheep during the courſe of the night.

This morning a ſoldier deſerted from *Landport guard*, and received the fire of the muſquetry of all the centinels, but without effect. The *Spaniſh* working parties are diligently employed.

Laſt

Laſt night a *Spaniſh* deſerter came in, and reports, that the ſoldier which deſerted yeſterday was wounded by our fire, and died in the greateſt agony, in the *Mill Battery* (or *St Carlos.*) This forenoon a great many infantry tents was pitched eaſt ſide of the *Horſe Barracks*, and ſome ſquadrons of infantry marched in 1782 April. 2d.

The encampment weſt of the *Orange Grove* is taken poſſeſſion of by troops; but they do not appear very numerous, or perhaps they are tired with their march over the mountains, and keep their tents as a relaxation from their fatigue. The enemy cannonade the garriſon exceſſively warm, three men and a boy wounded at *Willis's* by a rebound of a ſhot.—A new encampment is forming about a quarter of a mile from the Horſe Diſtrict.—The tents are for infantry, and appear quite new. 9th.

The encampment pitched yeſterday is hourly increaſing in the number of tents, but not any conſiderable body of troops appear. The enemy fired very hot this morning, and a ſhell which fell in *Landport Ditch*, juſt as the new guard came to relieve the old one, killed Lieutenant *Whetham*, of the 12th Regiment, wounded his ſervant who was on the right of the guard, and blew the drummer's drum in pieces. He was an amiable officer, and well reſpected; the loſs of him is much regretted by all ranks in the garriſon. 10th.

Six lug-ſail boats arrived from the weſtward; from their form and conſtruction we apprehend they are intended for landing of troops. Every thing now indicates a ſpeedy and vigorous aſſault. Our enemies are ſeemingly prepared for

1781 April for immediate battle, their iſthmus works being almoſt completed.

11th. Wind W. Arrived a boat from *Portugal* with goats, fowls, &c. The Patron brings intelligence, that ſhips and floating-batteries are fitting up in the port of *Cadiz*, lined with cork and oakum, whoſe ſtrength are to turn a cannon-ball, and that when *Duke de Crillon* arrives with his conquering, valiant, and ſucceſsful troops, from the glorious expedition at *Minorca*, he is to take the command of the forces, and head the army in their attack upon this place. He ſays, that from the accounts received in *Portugal*, that the Spaniards are in high ſpirits from the recent ſucceſs of the Duke at *Minorca*, that great expectation is placed on the valour of the troops under his command, and that on their arrival, the attack will commence.

15th. Arrived a large cutter at *Algaziras*, from the weſt. The enemy have brought forward their approaches conſiderably towards the garriſon. A general diſcharge of ordnance prevails.

16th. Wind S. W. Two large xebecs arrived this forenoon on the oppoſite ſide, and ſeveral ſmall ſettees, all from the weſtward.

The enemy's force now conſiſts of three frigates, four large xebecs, one cutter, one bomb-ketch, at *Algaziras*; one large xebec, one cutter, one lugger, one bomb-ketch, at *Orange Grove*; one large xebec, one ſmall ditto, one ſloop of war at *Cabritta*; fifteen gun-boats, eight mortar boats, ten or twelve fire-ſhips in the rivers, beſides what ſhipping they have at *Ceuta*, and cruizing to the eaſtward.

Landport-bridge is taken down, and it is reported that both the ſlopes are to be levelled, and

and only a timber aſcent made, that in caſe of any emergence may be ſet on fire, to prevent the enemy's entrance into the ditch under the *Grand Battery*. 1782 April.

Our working-parties are employed in erecting ſplinter proofs upon the batteries on the hill, as a cover from the bomb-ſhells when they explode in the air, which the *Spaniards* have practiſed of late.

Wind N. W. This morning, upon a ſhip being diſcovered by the enemy in the Offing, they hoiſted a ſignal on the tower at *Cabritta*, which not being anſwered, a xebec and ſloop, ſtationed at the Point, ſlipped out, and bore down under a preſſure of ſail.——The xebec having got a-head, fired a broadſide at her, which was directly returned by the ſhip; the ſloop now came up, and fired a few guns, notwithſtanding which, ſhe continued her courſe, and got ſafe in, without any loſs. She proves to be the *Antigallican* ſtore-ſhip, in eight days from *Falmouth*. The enemy, apparently, are not ſo attentively employed on the iſthmus as formerly. 20th.

The regiments in the town and ſouthward exchanged quarters this forenoon. 21ſt.

Very little work done by the enemy.—The gun-boats brought over by the *Vernon*, are getting in great forwardneſs in the *New-Mole Yard*.

Several parties employed daily in bringing faſcines into the *Spaniſh* camp. We ſuppoſe that the want of theſe materials has been the occaſion of their ceaſing from work theſe three days. Forts *Barbary* and *Phillippe*, the *Black-* 22d.

1782 April
Battery and lines, fired this afternoon minute guns, with ſhot, upon the garriſon.

24th. This forenoon an experimental trial was made with one of the gun-boats, mounted with an eighteen pounder. The firſt and ſecond ſhot fired horizontally recouched three or four times; the third had a degree of elevation, and went a diſtance in the bay. The Naval Commander promiſes great ſucceſs from them when the twelve is finiſhed. All hands buſy at work upon them.

25th. This morning early a deſerter from the Volunteers of *Argon* came in, and confirms a former account of ſhips being preparing for the purpoſe of attacking this garriſon, lined with cork and junk to prevent the penetration of our ſhot. A few working parties again appear on the iſthmus, but their labours are executed under cover.

27th. This day one of our long boats from *Ragged Staff* to the *New Mole* with iron, ſprung a leak, and went to the bottom, unfortunately a man and a boy were drowned.

28th. Wind W. S. W. This morning two ſhips, brig-rigged, and a ſchooner, appeared in the Gut, with their heads ſtanding to the eaſt.—The *Spaniſh* towers made a ſignal of an enemy being at hand, upon which two xebecs, and eight gun-boats went out in order to ſecure them, but were unexpectedly diſappointed, they proving to belong to the *French*. The rapidity of the current, and the wind having ſhifted to the N. W. the xebecs and gun-boats drove to the eaſtward.

30th. The enemy's batteries appear to be nearly finiſhed; for notwithſtanding we only now

and

and then diſcharge a few rounds of ſhot and ſhells, they have not taken the opportunity of doing any work. In the *Spaniſh* camp, a numerous army are ſeen—the whole Common at the foot of *Santa Roque*, is become a town and place of habitation, where a grand diſplay of ſlaughtering inſtruments is exhibited, and the moſt renowned engineers, experienced artilleriſts, and approved ſoldiers and ſeamen, are bent upon our extirpation from this heart-galling Rock. That their views and intentions may be fruſtrated, is the ſincere and hearty wiſh of 1782 April

Your affectionate Brother.

LETTER XXXII.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

EVERY opportunity that offers of writing to you, I readily embrace, and find an infinite ſatisfaction in the employ, conſcious that your boſom feels for my abſence and ſituation; I ſhould conſider myſelf unpardonable in any omiſſion. May 3

The enemy continue the ſiege, and are geting in forwardneſs the moſt ſtudious preparations for an attack. It is beyond diſpute that the contention will ſhortly be finally adjuſted.

Laſt night, Wind E. ſailed the *Cerberus* and *Apollo* frigates, *St. Ann*, *Vernon*, *Mercury*, and *Antigallican* ſtore-ſhips; the *Betſey*, *Thompſon*, *Loyal Briton*, and *Valiant* tranſports, at which 8th.

1782 time two *Spaniſh* frigates and three xebecs were
May 8. cruizing in the Gut. They had not been long under ſail, when rockets were thrown up at *Algaziras*, and anſwered at *Cabritta*.—About an hour after a cannonading was heard in the Gut, and continued for ſome time tolerably briſk; and this morning we had the mortification to view the enemy returning with the three laſt named tranſports, being the only defenceleſs veſſels that ſailed from hence. Their ſails were very much torn, and it is ſuppoſed the enemy alone directed their fire upon them, not liking to attack the ſtore-ſhips; they have a formidable appearance in the night. Thus victorious they entered the Bay in triumph, and conducted their prizes (manned only with about twenty-one men) to the port of *Algaziras*, there to recount the dangers of the battle, and to regale themſelves with the ſpoil.

9th. Wind W. S. W. This forenoon arrived from the weſtward one line of battle ſhip, convoying eight large ſtore-ſhips or Indiamen. From the appearance of their rigging and ſides, which is dry and ſhabby, and having but a few hands on board, we cannot imagine from what part they have arrived, or what occaſion brought them in here. All hands buſy about the *Spaniſh* camp.

10th. Wind S. E. Arrived a *Portugueſe* ſettee from *Tetuan*, with about 30,000 oranges, and a few pipes of oil. She was cleared out for *Cadiz*, but ſmuggled herſelf in here, where they will find a good market for their cargo.—Oranges are ſold for a rial each, about fourpence three-farthings ſterling.

The

The eight large ſhips that arrived over the way the 9th inſtant, are hauled cloſe to the ſhore, and are unrigging, and thoſe that arrived the 24th March have proceeded to the *Orange Grove*. It is currently reported that they are lined with cork, and are to be converted into batteries, but moſt people think that they are more fit for fire-wood, than attacking a fortreſs. 1782 May 13th.

The ſtore-ſhips at *Algaziras* are quite unrigged, and a great many hands employed upon them clearing their decks. The land fire is maintained with ſpirit, but very little work ſeemingly going forward on the iſthmus. 15th.

Laſt night three ſoldiers, in attempting to deſert from the heights of the Rock, fell from a precipice, and were found dead under the *Sugar-Loaf*, lying near each other. They had procured a rope, and faſtened it to a cleft of the Rock, but it was not of a ſufficient length to reach the bottom. 20th.

Arrived a xebec and a galley from the weſtward at *Algaziras*. The enemy are employed upon two of the ſtore-ſhips, cutting their ſides down. 22d.

The enemy continue working on the two ſtore-ſhips at *Algaziras*, and appear to be thickening with pieces of timber and other materials, their larboard ſides. Several ports have been already cut: from this it is evident they are intended for floating batteries. Wind E. The other ſtore-ſhips that lay at *Orange Grove* ſailed from thence to the weſtward, having diſcharged their lading, which is ſuppoſed to be ordnance ſtores. 25th.

Arrived

1782 May Arrived the *St. George* xebec, with a ſmall ſupply from *Leghorn*, having on board twelve *Corſicans*, including one officer, who have voluntarily come to offer their ſervice in the defence of this place. They mention that ſeveral more are preparing to embark on the ſame expedition.

26th. Arrived the *John Tartan*, Captain *M'Killiſter*, from *Leghorn*, with a ſupply of wine and oil. She brings intelligence, that we may be aſſured of a vigorous attack, as ſoon as the *Spaniſh* ſhips are ready, which will be made ſo ſtrong, and of ſuch a nature, that they will neither burn nor batter.

The *Spaniſh* hoſpital laſt night took fire, and is entirely conſumed.

27th. Wind S. E. Yeſterday evening near one hundred ſail of tranſports, and a bomb-ketch, arrived and anchored between *Algaziras* and *Orange Grove*, and this morning we perceived they were very full of men, which are ſuppoſed to be troops.

28th. A conſiderable body of troops were landed from the tranſports this afternoon, and marched into the *Spaniſh* camp. The enemy had hauled two tranſports in, and have began unrigging them. The two large ſhips that the enemy have been working at, have each of them fourteen or fifteen port-holes cut in their larboard ſides.

A flag of truce was received from *Spain*, but her meſſage is mere conjecture with the public. Some ſay, ſhe has brought a demand from the *Spaniſh* General, for the ſurrendering of the fortreſs; but this, I am confident, never will be

be done, while we have an ounce of bread, and a round of ammunition. 1782 May.

An *Engliſh Tartan* was taken to the eaſtward and towed by the enemy into *Algaziras*, with her colours reverſed. It is aſſerted that this veſſel is the one that Patron *Pratt* ſailed from this port to *Algiers* for ſupplies. 30th.

Our twelve gun-boats in New-*Mole-yard* are nearly finiſhed; ſeveral are already in the water, and lye very ſnug. We are very anxious to make trial of them with the enemy. A boat went out this day with a flag of truce into the Bay, with the Governor's anſwer to theirs, received the 28th inſtant.

The ſhips at *Algaziras* are getting pretty forward; a number of hands are employed upon them, but moſt of the garriſon are of opinion, from their conſtruction, that they will be found of very little uſe when they attack our walls, as they never will be able to tow them near enough to do any material execution, for ſhould they daringly come on, their boats will be inevitably cut off by the grape ſhot from the garriſon.

We ſhall have pretty ſport ſoon. I hope to ſurvive to ſend you an account of the particulars, wherein a victorious repulſe, I truſt, will be found; and probably before you receive this letter, the battle will have taken place, and the conteſt be decided.

With a heart glowing with zeal for the honour of *Britain* and her Dependencies, permit me to conclude, with the moſt brotherly love and eſteem,

Sincerely your's.

LETTER

LETTER XXXIII.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

1782 June 1. THE enemy labour conſtantly at equipping the ſtore-ſhips for ſervice; from the lights obſerved at *Algaziras* laſt night, we imagine they were buſy at work;—the maſts of moſt of them are taken out.

This morning died here, Brigadier-General *Stanton*, of the 97th regiment.

3d. Wind E. This day a convoy of near fifty ſail of different ſizes, arrived from the eaſtward at *Algaziras*, with ſtores and proviſion for the uſe of their army and navy. The cannonade continues pretty briſk on both ſides, but we have only a few wounded.

GARRISON ORDERS.

The Royal Standard to be hoiſted to-morrow—The Governor deſires to meet all the officers not on duty, on their reſpective parades, at guard-mounting to-morrow, to congratulate with them on the anniverſary of his majeſty's birth-day.

Such ordnance to be fired at the enemy's works, as ſhall be ordered by the Commanding Officer of the Royal Artillery, beginning at one o'clock.

4th. The royal ſtandard was hoiſted this morning on the flag-ſtaff in town, and on board the *Brilliant* in *New Mole*. At one o'clock the northernmoſt

northernmoſt batteries fired forty-four rounds of ſhot and ſhells upon the enemy's forts and works, in honour of his majeſty's birth-day. The ſhipping in the *New Mole*, and our twelve gun-boats arranged in a line from the *Tanks* to the pier of the *New Mole Head*, alſo performed a ſalute, and gave three cheers. The enemy maintained a briſk fire the whole day. The floating batteries (or cork ſhips) at *Algaziras*, are forwarding with all poſſible diligence. 1782 June.

A hot fire from the land batteries, upon our works and parties, which is as ſpiritedly returned from our heights. 6th.

Captain *Wideburg*, of *Reden*'s regiment of *Hanoverians*, was wounded this day.

The *Spaniards* have a great many hands employed upon ſeven ſhips at *Algaziras*; moſt of them have ports cut in their ſides, but none of them appear to be finiſhed.

This forenoon our Artillery had ſome *red hot ſhot*, experimental practice, at the veſſel wrecked off *Prince Orange*'s battery, which ſucceeded pretty well. An unfortunate accident happened by a gun unexpectingly going off, which killed the gunner in the embrazure, and wounded three other men. A conſtant fire from the Rock Gun upon the enemy's works on the iſthmus. 7th.

GARRISON ORDERS.

One quarter and half of a pint of vinegar to be iſſued to every ration, till further orders.

The

1782 The ſurgeons of the different corps are of
June. opinion, that this will be a great preventative in the ſad effects of the ſcurvy.

10th. The men employed upon the ſeven floating-batteries, work with the greateſt aſſiduity, but as yet we cannot form any judgment of their utility or conſtruction.

Early this morning the *Spaniſh* gun and mortar-boats made an excurſion in the Bay, and diſcharged their ordnance upon the garriſon: they fired very warm for an hour and three quarters, during which time we had ſeveral men wounded. A ſoldier is miſſing, ſuppoſed to have deſerted.

11th. This forenoon, a thirteen-inch ſhell, fired from the enemy's works, fell upon a magazine at *Princeſs Ann*'s battery, where there were many men at work and on duty; it forced its way through the ſplinter-proof which covered the magazine door, burſt it open, and in the exploſion blew up the magazine. We had fifteen men killed, and twenty-one wounded. Scarce had the exploſion taken place, when the enemy began a very briſk cannonade and bombardment from every battery on the iſthmus and lines, particularly directed to the ſpot where the unfortunate accident happened.—The Royal Artillery felt for the loſs, and in retaliation gave the foe moſt heavy and well-directed diſcharges of ſhot and ſhells, which they met with aſtoniſhing bravery.

The man miſſing the 10th inſtant, was taken this day at the back of the Rock, by a party of men, and ſent on board the *Provoſt* ſhip, a place of confinement, and anſwers the purpoſe of a garriſon gaol.

The

The enemy labour with the utmoſt diligence on their floating batteries; their whole attention ſeems to be engaged in their equipment. It is conjectured that in five or ſix weeks they will be completed, and ready for action. If they are not ſucceſsful when they attack our walls, the enemy will be obliged to abandon them to our cannonade, as from their apparent heavineſs, it cannot be ſuppoſed practicable to get them from their anchorage. 1782 June. 13th.

This day a ſoldier deſerted from *Landport* guard; the ſentinels fired at him, but he made his eſcape without receiving any hurt from the muſquetry.—Wind E. A *French* frigate convoying a number of ſmall craft, arrived at *Algaziras* from the eaſtward with troops on board. About two o'clock this afternoon, a *Spaniſh* xebec was becalmed near the garriſon. The ſouthward batteries and prams, at *New-Mole Head*, fired upon her, aſſiſted by Captain *Curtis*, and our twelve gun-boats. The xebec perceiving her ſituation to be growing very deſperate, fired a gun to windward as a ſignal for aſſiſtance, while *Curtis*'s boats kept a fire upon her head. The enemy ſent ſeveral ſmall cruizers to her relief, when unluckily a breeze ſprang up from the eaſt, and two *Spaniſh* gun-boats towed her out of the reach of our guns. Had it continued a calm much longer, ſhe muſt have been under the neceſſity of ſtriking. She received ſeveral ſhot from the garriſon guns. 14th.

The xebec we fired at yeſterday, is obſerved to be upon her keel, no doubt repairing the damage ſhe received. 15th.

Wind E.

1782 June. 24th. The enemy's batteries are ſtill ſilent; every thing on the iſthmus wears a different appearance. It is imagined that *Duke de Crillion* ſucceeds *General Alvarez* in command, and that a new arrangement of operations has taken place. We fire very negligently on the enemy, and that moſtly in the night. The floating batteries have a number of hands at work upon them, but we cannot make out what they are doing.

27th. All quiet on the iſthmus, excepting now and then a ſhot for diverſion, which ſometimes we return, and ſometimes not. Our Governor has taken this opportunity of repairing and ſtrengthening the works and batteries. Several ſtrong working parties employed to the northward.

29th. Little fire from the enemy. The floating-batteries are forwarding with incredible expedition. The enemy have begun forming ſomething over the deck of one of them, we ſuppoſe for a ſplinter-proof—time will manifeſt the uſe of it.

I remain,

Dear Brother,

Affectionately Yours.

LETTER

LETTER XXXIV.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

THE enemy obſerve great ſilence on the iſthmus, but an unuſual activity appears in and about their ſtores and grand magazine: ſome are of opinion that the attack will be made ſudden and in the night time. We are well ſatisfied with the ceaſing of the cannonade, as it affords us the opportunity of repairing our very-much ſhattered and damaged works. This morning we fired ſix ſhells from *Willis*'s into the *Spaniſh* lines, which they anſwered with one ſhot. 1782 July 1.

Six battalions in the *Spaniſh* encampment, ſtruck their tents this morning, and removed to another part of the camp.

All buſy at *Algaziras*. The conſtruction of the cover of one of the floating batteries is much reſembling the roof of a houſe, but at the diſtance they now are, cannot hazard a deſcription. The general opinion of the garriſon is, that the enemy will experience great labour and difficulty to bring them on, as they muſt be very heavy from the quantity of timber which compoſe their bulk.

The regiments in the garriſon for ſeveral days paſt, have been practiſing firing ball from the line-wall, at a target placed a ſmall diſtance from the Rock, in the ſea.

Some few ſhot and ſhells from the enemy this day. The floating batteries are in great forwardneſs. 3d.

The

1782 July. 6th. The junk ſhips are not yet completed; they have roofed a ſecond, and began a third; ſo that we imagine they will all be finiſhed in the ſame manner.

7th. Wind W. Early this morning a brig from the weſtward was diſcovered in the Offing, the *Spaniſh* towers hung out the ſignal of an enemy, when a xebec and four gun-boats puſhed out: the boats ſoon came up with her and began a fire, which ſhe returned, and beat them off: the xebec then bore down and boarded her in a manful manner; and ſhortly after they hoiſted the *Spaniſh* colours above the *Engliſh*: ſhe was conducted under this eſcort in triumph to *Algaziras*. We feel a ſenſible uneaſineſs in not having a force ſufficient to protect any veſſel ſtanding for the Bay. It muſt be very diſtreſſing, after a veſſel has eſcaped croſſing the ſea, to be taken in ſight of their deſtined port, and ſometimes almoſt within reach of the garriſon guns.

This afternoon arrived from the weſtward, and anchored at *Cabritta*, a frigate and a xebec. We expect ſome other veſſel is in ſight of the coaſt.

10th. The enemy continue working on the cork ſhips, roofing them over, which makes them have a very odd appearance. A ſerjeant is miſſing ſuppoſed to have deſerted.

11th. This afternoon four men belonging to one of the Prams, went in a boat to the enemy. We fired at them, but too late to prevent their eſcape. The ſerjeant miſſing on the 10th, was found at the back of the rock, half way down, but for want of a rope could not get any further.

This

This morning a ſoldier deſerted from *Queen's Lines Guard.* A Prophet is taken up, and ſent on board the *Provoſt ſhip.* Like *Jonah* warning the city of *Nineveh*, ſo he publicly avowed that within ſix weeks, ſix days, and ſix hours, from laſt Saturday at twelve o'clock, the garriſon would be taken, and the Governor killed: he is a ſoldier belonging to the 73d regiment, and, at the expiration of the time, there is no doubt but he will ſuffer for his folly. 1782 July 13th.

This morning came in a deſerter from *Spain:* he ſays that there are forty-four battalions in camp; that *Duke de Crillion* has made a thorough ſurvey of all the works, and is gone to *Madrid* to report to his Catholic Majeſty. The enemy have not completed any of the floating batteries—They have begun this morning forming a boom acroſs the harbour at *Algaziras*, for the protection of their ſhipping—We flatter ourſelves that they are apprehenſive of the arrival of our fleet. 14th.

Wind W. The *French* convoy ſailed to the eaſtward, and the men of war are in readineſs to weigh. The boom at *Algaziras* is lengthening conſiderably. From theſe circumſtances, we conjecture that we ſhall ſhortly find relief. The floating batteries come on apace. 16th.

The boom is lengthened about two thouſand yards, and covers all the floating batteries. The *Spaniſh* cruizers are very alert, and neither truſt to colours or ſignals. The enemy have begun a battery near *Tarifa* (from the account the deſerter gives that came in on the 14th) and that ſix hundred men were detached for that purpoſe. 17th.

1782 July 18th. Wind E. Six large boats arrived from the eaſtward at *Algaziras;* they appear to be new, and of the conſtruction of their gun-boats. The enemy keep working day and night at the floating batteries; the roof of one is quite finiſhed, and is much like the top of a houſe, with a gradual aſcent from head and ſtern.

19th. The boom at *Algaziras* is extended the length of the town, and all the cruizers are on the inſide; the bomb ketch which lay at the *Orange Grove*, weighed anchor, and has taken her ſtation at the ſame place. The old paſtime of ſhot and ſhells cannot be forgot, we keep playing away manfully. A ſailor who happened to be in town when a ſhell burſt over his head, exclaimed (with the uſual oath for which they are ſo much diſtinguiſhed) "*D--n*—, *but the Spaniards have got a battery in the air.*"

21ſt. All hands buſy at work on the oppoſite ſhore; three of the floating batteries are roofed over. The regiments exchanged quarters this day.

23d. Wind W. A large xebec arrived and anchored at *Algaziras*. The enemy have nearly roofed another of the floating batteries, and the three laſt that were taken in hand, are in great forwardneſs.

24th. The ſerjeant taken at the back of the Rock on the 11th, was executed for the ſame, and died with a penitence becoming his unhappy ſituation.

25th. Wind ſtrong E. Arrived the *St. Philip's-Caſtle* and *General Murray* ſloop of war, from *Leghorn;* they have brought proviſion for the garriſon, with five officers and ſeventy-five *Corſicans:* they bring the agreeable intelligence of

of Admiral *Rodney* having defeated the *French*, and taken the *Ville de Paris* of 110 guns, with four other line of battle ſhips. Our Governor ordered a ſalvo from the batteries, and a *feu de joye* to be fired, which you will perceive by the

1782 July. 25th.

GARRISON ORDERS.

Parole RODNEY. *A feu de joye to be fired this day to celebrate the victory gained by his majeſty's fleet under the command of Sir George Rodney, over the French fleet in the Weſt-Indies. All the ordnance from the Rock gun to Princeſs Carolina's incluſive, to be fired at one o'clock, beginning at the Rock gun ſhotted. At ſix in the evening the regiments will take poſt on the line wall, in the following order, drawn up two deep.*

The 72d regiment right to the Prince Heſſe's battery; 12th join the left of 72d; the two town companies of Artillery on the King's baſtion; the 39th on the left of the 12th; Lieutenant-General Reden's left of 39th; Major-General La Mott's left of Reden's; 73d right at Ragged-ſtaff; 56th on the left of 73d; the three South Companies of Royal Artillery in the New-Mole fort.—Two rockets will be thrown up on the right, as a ſignal to begin the firſt round; two from the left, when the fire returns from thence for the ſecond round; and two more from the right for the third round. Three cheers when the firing is finiſhed, to begin on the right, and paſs along in the ſame manner as the firing did.

The ſhipping and gun-boats fired and cheered at one o'clock; the hill batteries ſaluted the enemy's works with ball, and the regiments

1782 July performed in the evening a running fire of three rounds, which had a pleaſing effect.

25th. I hope this ſucceſs will contribute to diſtreſs and diſpirit our foes, who, vaunting of their power, bluſter, threaten, and claim victory as their own. Their impregnable floating batteries will ſhortly be tried, and though the *Spaniſh* gazettes boaſt of unborn atchievements, yet there is not the leaſt doubt but our red hot pills will effectually anſwer our purpoſe. They muſt be of an amazing conſtruction if blazing twenty-four and thirty-two pounders will not burn them.

This being St. *James*'s Day, the enemy's ſhips were dreſſed and ſaluted three times.—The enemy roofed over another floating battery.

26th. Wind W. Arrived a ſmall ſettee from *Portugal* with wine and fruit. She has brought a confirmation of the glorious defeat of the *French*. The enemy endeavoured to take her, but were too late in getting out.

30th. The floating batteries come rapidly on; another of them is roofed over. The enemy devote their whole time and ſtudy to get them finiſhed; they work day and night. On our part, being convinced they are intended to attack the place, we as anxiouſly wiſh for their ſpeedy equipment to give the deſive ſtroke.—It will be hot and ſtubborn work, if they are of the ſtrength reported, namely, *bomb-proof*, that will reſiſt a ſhell which weighs two hundred before it is diſchagred from the mortar, and when it deſcends, is ſuppoſed to fall thirty ton weight.

Yours, &c.

LETTER XXXV.

Their blooming hopes ſoar high in this deluſion,
To gain poſſeſſion of this envied place,
And on the battlements Spain's enſigns ſpread.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

THE foe, ere long, will make their promiſed ſtorm—their batteries are compleated, and their junk-ſhips almoſt ready. A numerous army encamped, and boats for landing their troops are in the rivers. It is probable that this month will be the grand deciſion of the combat, and we heartily wiſh it, as we are almoſt worn out with conſtant toils, harraſſing expectations, and a ſevere cannonade, which the enemy began again yeſterday evening. 1782. Aug. 4.

The enemy have brought ſeveral fire ſhips out of the rivers; the floating batteries have a very ugly and odd appearance: we think they were mounting ordnance in one to-day, as a great number of boats were along ſide.

The *Corſicans* that arrived here from *Leghorn*, are formed into a company, viz.

Signor *Antonio Leonettie*, Captain; *Phillippo Maſſaraia*, Captain Lieutenant; *Georgio Alexandria Michili*, Firſt Lieutenant; *Leonardo Monti*, Adjutant, with the rank of Lieutenant; *Angelo Raffaelli*, ſecond Lieutenant; *Lugi Cotie*, Chaplain; four Serjeants, four Corporals, two Drummers, and 68 private men:—total eighty-four.

A deſerter

1782 A deſerter from the enemy came in, and
Aug. ſays that the floating batteries are almoſt ready,
7th. and that one has been tried with ball, and anſwers their expectation.

8th. Wind W. Arrived two veſſels under Imperial colours, from the weſtward at *Algaziras*, and the line of battle ſhip ſailed from that place to the *Orange Grove*, ſuppoſed to take in powder and ſtores. The floating batteries are very near finiſhed. The enemy fire with ſpirit from the land ſide.

11th. Wind E. This day arrived a *French* twenty gun ſhip, on the oppoſite ſide. Several parties are employed on the ſtrand, beyond the *Spaniſh* lines, we ſuppoſe for the purpoſe of erecting a battery, they being apprehenſive of a viſit in that part, whenever our fleet arrives.

The ſhip that came in yeſterday, has removed to the *Orange Grove*, probably to diſcharge her cargo. The enemy keep labouring at their junk ſhips, and have taken the maſts out of one of them, but moſt people are of opinion they never will be able to bring them over without ſails.

12th. The enemy have put ſmaller maſts into the ſhip that they diſmaſted yeſterday, and are very buſy rigging her—From this it is evident they mean to ſail to their anchorage. From what opinion we can at preſent form, we imagine from their cloſeneſs and wanting air, that they will find an inconvenience in working their guns with briſkneſs.

13th. Wind W. Sailed the *Eliza* brig, for *Leghorn*. The veſſels arrived under Imperial colours, ſailed to the *Orange Grove*. The enemy are very buſy in rigging two of the floating batteries.

Arrived

Arrived a frigate, under *French* colours from the weſtward at *Algaziras*—Four gun boats fired at her, apprehending ſhe was an enemy, until ſhe diſplayed her colours. 1782 Aug. 14th.

The enemy have taken out the maſts of four of the batteries, and replaced them with others much ſmaller, the two that were rigging have bent their ſails—We imagine they will ſhortly all of them be ready.

During the courſe of laſt night, the enemy erected a work compoſed of ſand bags, extending obliquely from the eaſtern ſhore, towards the centre of the *Spaniſh* lines. It is computed from its length and height, and having ſo ſhort a ſpace of time to complete it in (only about ſix hours darkneſs) that there was not leſs than ten thouſand men employed in the execution of it.—At preſent it is maſked, but there is not the leaſt doubt but the enemy intend it for a battery. 16th.

The enemy have hauled out one of their floating batteries being perfectly finiſhed; ſhe has a very awkward and ſurpriſing appearance, and lies low in the water:—they are very attentive in equipping the others. Wind W. arrived a cutter from the weſtward, and ſaluted the Admiral with eleven guns, which he returned with three. A tolerable briſk cannonade from the enemy's forts and lines. 17th.

About eleven o'clock this forenoon the enemy made a grand diſplay in the bay—ſeven barges with crimſon awnings proceeded from *Algaziras*, attended by twelve gun boats to the *Orange Grove*—In half an hour after their arrival, they put off in the ſame order, upon which the ſhipping immediately dreſſed, and the 18th.

1782 Aug. 18th. the Admiral gave a ſalute of twenty-one guns —the other ſhipping alſo fired, and the gun boats each of them diſcharged their ordnance. A frigate got under weigh from *Algaziras*, and under a gentle ſail went to meet the barges, which when ſhe had come half way ſhe gave a ſalute of twenty-one guns, the gun boats fired alternately, until the barges got to *Algaziras*, when another royal ſalute was given. The barges then went on board the junk ſhip hauled out yeſterday, and a diſcharge of cannon continued while the viſitors remained on board —Having gratified their curioſity in the examination of the floating battery, they went on board the Admiral's ſhip to dine, and regale themſelves, and drank a hearty bumper in ſucceſs to their undertaking, where they continued till ſix o'clock in the evening, when, in the ſame proceſſion they came in, they returned to the pier at the *Orange Grove*, and on their landing, another ſalute was given.—Some are of opinion that this rejoicing is occaſioned by the arrival of a Prince of the Blood, and others that it is the Admiral who is to command the floating batteries.

19th. This forenoon a flag of truce from the *Orange Grove* came over, and rowed along pretty near our line wall, until ſhe came oppoſite *Ragged-ſtaff*, when one of our boats went out with Captain *Valloton*, of the 56th regiment (chief Aid-de-camp to the Governor) and ſpoke to her, and ſoon afterwards returned.—The boat kept very cloſe in with the ſhore, making a ſurvey of the works, when the *Repulſe* (an advanced gun boat) fired a ſhot as a caution for her to keep her proper diſtance.—Soon after

ter Captain *Valloton* returned to the flag of truce, which brought a handſome preſent of fruit and game for the Governor, from *Count de Artois*, whoſe arrival in the *Spaniſh* camp occaſioned yeſterday's rejoicing.—The floating batteries are rigging with the utmoſt expedition. The day of trial is very near at hand, I hope we ſhall acquit ourſelves in the defence of this place with honour and ſucceſs. 1782 Aug. 19th.

This morning our Governor ſent out a flag of truce to the enemy, with a return for the preſent received yeſterday. I am confidently told, it conſiſted of a caſk of beef, pork, and butter, a cheeſe, a puncheon of rum, a ſheep and a goat, ſome poultry, and a quantity of potatoes, "with the General's compliments to the Count, thanking him for his kindneſs, and aſſuring him that he did not want any refreſhments." This was policy to make the enemy believe that our ſituation was not ſo deplorable as they imagined.

Wind E. This morning we obſerved the *Eliza* brig that ſailed from hence on the 13th, returning from the eaſtward under a *Spaniſh* enſign, and alſo thirteen large boats which we imagine are for the purpoſe of landing troops; from their ſize it is not improbable but each of them may contain five hundred men.—Six of the floating batteries are almoſt rigged—two completely equipped for battle. 21ſt.

This forenoon our batteries poured upon the enemy's works a conſiderable diſcharge of ſhot, ſhells, and carcaſſes, and had the ſatisfaction to ſet the enemy's advanced iſthmus work on fire, which burnt moſt furiouſly for an hour or better. A briſk fire was maintained on both 22d.

ſides

1782 ſides with the firmeſt ſpirit and bravery, and
Aug. the enemy were ſeveral times drove off their works, and forced to abandon a battery on the left of *St. Carlos*, termed the *Mahon* battery. We fired from the garriſon in the ſpace of an hour, near fourteen hundred rounds—the cannonade continued furious till nine o'clock, when the enemy rather ſlackened their fire. We had only three men wounded, but judge what loſs the foe muſt have ſuſtained, as they had a body of near two thouſand men employed, in endeavouring to extinguiſh the fire.

23d. The enemy have roofed another floating battery, and are rigging thoſe that are already roofed; one of them appears to have about twenty-ſix ports on one ſide. Our batteries keep playing away upon the iſthmus, and we have been uſing every means to fire the enemy's works again, but all ineffectually.

24th. The ſand-bag work erected on the 16th inſtant, conſiſts of four batteries of ſixteen guns each. The enemy are buſy in nailing down their platforms, and getting all things in readineſs to mount the ordnance—They will be able to ſcour our lines, and advanced poſts from this work; they are forming bomb batteries in the rear of the cannon of their advanced batteries; ſo reſolutely determined are they upon the capture of the old Rock.

25th. The enemy had a rejoicing to-day on the ſea-ſide—in the morning at ſun-riſe, the ſhips dreſſed and fired, as did alſo the iſland near *Algaziras*—this was repeated again at noon, and at the going down of the ſun. The floating batteries are almoſt ready.

The

The *St. Philip's Caſtle*, and the ordnance ſtore ſhipping that lay in *Roſia Bay*, hauled in this morning to the *New Mole*. The bay on our ſide is quite clear, as all our ſhips are now within the boom. From the circumſtances of the ſiege, it is whiſpered that the ſeamen are to be landed, and incorporated into a brigade, to act as ſoldiers within the walls, under the command of Captain *Curtis* as Colonel. The enemy have eight of their floating batteries roofed—the day of battle is nigh at hand. 1782 Aug. 26th.

This morning a deſerter came in from *Spain*, and brings advice, that the enemy have every preparation made on the land-ſide for the aſſault, and that they are only waiting for the junk ſhips, when they mean to attack us in every quarter—He alſo ſays that eight line of battle ſhips are expected from *Cadiz*, to act in conjunction with the *flotantees*. He was taken priſoner at *Minorca*, by *Duke de Crillion*, and inliſted into a *French* regiment, but not liking to fight againſt his king and country, embraced the firſt opportunity of making his eſcape. 27th.

Wind W. Arrived at *Algaziras*, ſix line of battle ſhips, two xebecs and a cutter. The ninth floating battery is almoſt roofed, but is much ſmaller than the others. 28th.

The deſerter that came in yeſterday, ſays, that on the night of the 16th, he was among the number that helped to erect the ſand bag work, and from the accounts in the *Spaniſh* camp, there was about eleven thouſand men employed to effect it, that had we fired towards the eaſtern ſhore, the greateſt part muſt have been cut off.

The

1782 Aug. 29th. The crews of the men of war and other ſhipping in *New Mole* are landed, and employed in bringing their ſtores on ſhore. The ſeamen are in good ſpirits, and ſwear bitterly againſt the *Dons*.—This little reinforcement will be of great ſervice to us. The enemy fire briſk on the land ſide.

GARRISON ORDERS.

30th. *The officers and crews of his majeſty's ſhips being landed, are to be encamped at Europa, and to form the Marine Brigade. Captain Curtis commanding his majeſty's ſhips in the Mediterranean is appointed to ſerve as Brigadier General.*

You would ſmile to view the tars handling their firelocks, and marching full accoutred; the boatſwain's pipe—all hands aloft,—brace the yards,—tacks and ſheets, &c. are no longer heard,—the glittering beauties of the parade engage the attention, while whiſtling winds, and roaring billows are forgotten. Thus military equipped, they long for battle, to perform their evolutions and manœuvres, which on a parade might excite laughter, but amidſt blazing cannon, and clouds of ſmoke, every awkward appearance will be hid—If they prime and load expeditiouſly, it is all that will be required, nor will they need to *reſt*; *ſhoulder*, or *poiſe*.

Yours &c.

P. S. Incloſed are the copies of two letters, ſaid to be written by the *Duke de Crillion*, and his Excellency *General Eliott*, on the 19th and 20th inſtant.

Camp of Buenaviſta, Auguſt 19, 1782.

SIR,

HIS Royal Highneſs *Comte d' Artois*, who has received permiſſion from the King, his brother, to aſſiſt at the ſiege as a volunteer in the combined army, of which their moſt Chriſtian and Catholic Majeſties have honoured me with the command, arrived in this Camp the 15th inſtant. This young Prince has been pleaſed in paſſing through *Madrid*, to take charge of ſome letters, which had been ſent to that capital from this, and which are addreſſed to perſons belonging to your garriſon—his Royal Highneſs has deſired that I would tranſmit them to you, and that to this mark of his goodneſs and attention, I ſhould add the ſtrongeſt expreſſions of eſteem for your perſon and character; I feel the greater pleaſure in giving this mark of condeſcenſion in this auguſt Prince, as it furniſhes me with a pretext, which I have been anxiouſly looking for theſe two months that I have been in this camp, to aſſure you of the high eſteem I have conceived for your Excellency, of the immenſe deſire I feel of deſerving yours, and of the pleaſure to which I look forward of becoming your friend, after I ſhall have learnt to render myſelf worthy the honor of facing you as an enemy. His Highneſs the *Duke de Bourbon*, who arrived here twenty-four hours after *Comte d' Artois*, deſires alſo that I ſhould aſſure you of his particular eſteem. 1782 Aug. 30th.

Permit

1782 Aug. 30th. Permit me, dear General, to offer you a few little trifles for your table, of which I am ſure you muſt ſtand in need; as I know you live entirely upon vegetables, I ſhould be glad to know what kind you like beſt. I ſhall add a few partridges for the gentlemen of your houſhold, and ſome ice, which I preſume will not be diſagreeable in the exceſſive heat of this climate, at this ſeaſon of the year—I hope you will be obliging enough to accept the ſmall preſent I ſend with this letter.

I have the honor to be, &c.

His Excellency General Eliott, &c.

Gibraltar, Aug. 20.

SIR,

I FIND myſelf highly honoured by your obliging letter of yeſterday, in which your Excellency was ſo kind as to inform me of the arrival in your camp of his Royal Highneſs the *Comte d' Artois*, and the *Duke de Bourbon*, to ſerve as volunteers at the ſiege. Theſe Princes have ſhewn their judgment in making choice of a maſter in the art of war, whoſe abilities cannot fail to make great warriors. I am really overwhelmed with the condeſcenſion of his Royal Higneſs, in ſuffering ſome letters for perſons in this town to be conveyed from *Madrid* in his carriages. I flatter myſelf that your Excellency will give my moſt profound reſpects

reſpects to his Royal Highneſs, and the *Duke de Bourbon*, for the expreſſions of eſteem with which they have been pleaſed to honor ſo inſignificant a perſon as I am. 1782 Aug. 30th.

I return a thouſand thanks to your Excellency for your handſome preſent of fruits, vegetables and game, you will excuſe me however I truſt, when I aſſure you, that in accepting your preſent, I have broken through a reſolution, which I had faithfully kept ſince the beginning of the war, and that was, never to receive, or procure by any means whatever, any proviſions, or other commodity for my own private uſe; ſo that without any preference, every thing is ſold publicly here, and the private ſoldier (if he has money) can become a purchaſer as ſoon as the Governor. I confeſs I make it a point of honor to partake both of plenty and ſcarcity in common with my brave ſoldiers; this furniſhes me with an excuſe for the liberty I now take of intreating your Excellency not to heap any more favours on me of this kind, as in future I cannot convert your preſents to my own private uſe. Indeed, to be plain with your Excellency, though vegetables at this ſeaſon are ſcarce with us, every one has got a quantity proportioned to the labour he has beſtowed in raiſing them: the *Engliſh* are naturally fond of gardening and cultivation, and here we find our amuſement in it, during the intervals of reſt from public duty.

The promiſe which the *Duke de Crillion* makes to honour me, in proper time and place, with his friendſhip, lays me under infinite obligations: the intereſts of our Sovereigns being once

1782 Aug. once ſolidly ſettled, I ſhall with eagerneſs embrace the firſt opportunity to avail myſelf of ſo precious a treaſure.

I have the honour to be, &c.

His Excellency Duke de Crillion, &c.

LETTER XXXVI.

Gibraltar

DEAR BROTHER,

Sept. 1. THE grand action has not yet taken place, though every day adds freſh convincing proofs of a ſpeedy termination. The enemy ſtrenuouſly exert themſelves both by land and ſea; they have hauled out five of their floating batteries in a line with the firſt, having bent their ſails, and otherwiſe rigged them. On the iſthmus is a battery almoſt within a piſtol ſhot, ſufficient of itſelf

> To ſtrike with dread a legion of infernals,
> When told they muſt withſtand its mighty rage.

In the camp of *Santa Roque*, an army of fifty thouſand men parade, not worn out with the heavy toils of war, but healthful and vigorous, while our garriſon, deprived of all nouriſhment, and almoſt as feeble as old age for want of ſuccour, can muſter very few more than five thouſand men and boys, including ſick, wounded, and diſabled, to repulſe the efforts

efforts of ſuch a ſuperior force. Lieutenant *Campbell*, of the *Brilliant*, was privately diſpatched with letters to *Portugal* from the Governor, to convey to *England*. 1782. Sept. 1.

But as we're actors—*Europe* the ſpectators,
I truſt we ſhall perform in this great cauſe,
As men determin'd to maintain the right
Of *George* our king, and *Britain*'s fame and welfare.
Although the foe has made a heſt'ring boaſt.
That each diſcharge from land and ſea we'll find,
Two thouſand ſhot and ſhells from guns and mortars,
Will conſtantly be ſhow'ring on the garriſon.

Wind E. Two *French* line of battle ſhips, which ſeemingly ſtood for the weſtward, came into *Algaziras*, on a frigate's ſpeaking to them. 3d.

This morning, ſixteen large boats came out of the river, and went to the *Orange-Grove*: they appear to be for the purpoſe of landing troops, from having a high and thick parapet at the head. Seven of the *Spaniſh* junk ſhips ſailed from *Algaziras* to *Orange-Grove* this afternoon; they had a very ſtiff breeze from S. W. but were two hours in performing the diſtance of four miles. They look very unweildy, and lay deep in the water; three of them have two tier of guns. 4th.

The enemy's naval force now ſtands thus:—Nine ſhips of the line, three frigates, four xebecs, eight gallies, two cutters, one *French* ſhip twenty guns, nine floating batteries complete, one ditto almoſt finiſhed, one bomb-

1782 Sept. 6th. ketch, about one hundred gun and mortar-boats, beſides boats for landing troops.

The enemy have been aſſiduouſly employed in mounting guns in their ſixty-four gun battery. We have kept almoſt an inceſſant fire from the rock-gun upon it, but it being ſo thick covered with ſand, the ſhot makes very little penetration. An additional field officer is ordered to take poſt in the lines, and a reinforcement to the *New Mole* guard. The *Corſican* company that were embodied Auguſt 4th, are ordered for duty to-morrow. Every one that is able to fire a muſquet, or carry a ſhot, muſt take poſt upon any alarm. The tenth floating battery is roofed, and they have begun to rig her;—a few days more, and then we ſhall fall to it *ding-dong*.

A floating caſtle was towed from the river to *Orange Grove*; upwards of two hundred boats lay at the mouth of the firſt river. Three *French* polacres arrived from the weſtward at *Algaziras*, with troops. A *Spaniſh* deſerter came in laſt night, ſays, the enemy are only waiting for the Prince of *Naſſau*.

7th. The three remaining junk ſhips at *Algaziras*, have taken in their maſts. The enemy have erected ſtairs on the floating caſtle arrived at *Orange Grove* yeſterday. At day-break this morning, ſeveral of the enemy's cruizers appeared off the *Old Mole*; and for want of ſufficient light, the ſentinels alarmed the guards, with the arrival of the junk ſhips. Five line of battle ſhips, and one of the junkers, proceeded to *Orange Grove* this afternoon; the latter was three hours on her way.

GARRISON

GARRISON ORDERS.

1782 Sept.

The marine brigade to take Europa advance, and Little-bay guards to-morrow.

Reinforcements are ordered likewiſe to *Prince's-lines*, *Landport*, *Waterport*, *Main* and *Ragged-ſtaff* guards.

8th. This morning, Lieutenant-General *Boyde* took poſt on the grand-battery (having command of all the batteries) and the neceſſary arrangements being made from the rock-gun to the *Old-Mole-Head*, we began a furious cannonade of red-hot balls upon the enemy's *Mahon-battery* (mounted with ſix pieces of ordnance) and other lines of approach, together with a ſupply of ſhells and carcaſſes;—the moſt intoxicating joy gained poſſeſſion of the ſoldiery, and every heart and hand was chearfully employed; and while gazing crouds who had taken poſt upon *Andaluſia*'s hills, beheld the vollies of deſtruction that flew in ſhowers, and the ſad effects that were productive of the red-flaming balls, our men rejoiced, and made a paſtime of the dire employ. The foe withſtood our fire with intrepidity, until moſt of their works and the thirteen-gun battery next the bay, were blazing in ſeveral places, and ſtrewed over with mangled limbs and dead bodies. Several parties appeared upon the glacis, and in an undaunted manner, tore up the faſciens: ſome kept pouring of baſkets of ſand upon the parts that were on fire, and others running to the ſea for buckets of water. Thus they ſtood, while ſhowers of balls fell on every ſide, and many were obſerved to be knocked off the

1782 Sept. works. I aſſure you, it was a horrid ſcene of ſlaughter, and the enemy were conſtrained to ceaſe their cannonade, to ſave the remainder of their men. The fire continued in this ſpirited manner from ſeven till near one o'clock, during which we had ſeveral killed and wounded, among whom were Lieutenant *Boag*, of the Royal Artillery, and Enſign *Gordon*, of the 58th regiment, but not mortally. The battery, which mounted thirteen pieces of cannon, was entirely conſumed.

9th. This morning, between four and five o'clock, the enemy diſcharged between fifty and ſixty ſhells in a volley on the garriſon, and immediately after, opened their ſixty-four and other batteries (amounting to about one hundred and thirty pieces of cannon and eighty mortars) with the greateſt ſpirit, which we immediately anſwered. Their ſixty-four gun battery was an inceſſant volley the whole time, which laſted moſt of the day, and the diſtance being ſo ſhort, their ſhot reached the walls almoſt as ſoon as you perceived the flaſh; the diſcharge was ſo quick, that the balls rolled along the ſtreets by dozens; this was by way of retaliation for the unexpected compliment we paid them yeſterday. Lieutenant *Wharton*, of the 73d, and ſeveral men were wounded. The two floating batteries at *Algaziras*, have got their ſails bent.

Wind E. Their line of battle ſhips, nine in number, viz. ſeven *Spaniſh*, and two *French*, accompanied by a xebec and frigate, ſtretched over in a line from the *Orange Grove* this forenoon, and fired upon the garriſon until they paſſed *Europa*, when they tacked again, and returned

returned firing the ſame way, they then ſtood to the oppoſite ſide, where they lay with their ſails looſe till near ſun-ſet, when they again ſtretched over, and under a gentle ſail directed their fire to the ſouthward, in the ſame manner as before, continuing their courſe to the eaſtward, at which time their gun-boats came over, and rowed in a line under the *King's Baſtion*, and began a fire, but our batteries gave them ſuch a ſmart reception, that they found it convenient to withdraw. The 97th regiment, which landed laſt March, are ordered to do duty. 1782 Sept.

About one o'clock this morning, the nine line of battle ſhips returned from the eaſtward, and fired upon *Europa* and the ſouthward encampments: they continued a briſk cannonade until they came near the *King's Baſtion*, when they ſtood over to the *Orange Grove* and anchored; ſeveral ſeamen at *Europa* and others, were wounded thereby. They repeated this manœuvre again this forenoon, but having been frequently ſtruck by our ſhot, they came to an anchor on their own ſide, where we obſerved two of them repairing.—From the land ſide, they alſo maintain a briſk cannonade, and their ſixty-four gun battery repreſents an entire blaze. It is apprehended that we ſhall ſuffer conſiderably from this work. 10th.

Between nine and ten o'clock this evening, the enemy advanced to *Bay-ſide*, and ſet fire to the palliſadoes at that place, which burnt very freely for ſome time, when one of them again advanced, obſerving it rather decaying, put freſh fire to thoſe that were not conſumed, notwith- 11th.

1782 Sept. ſtanding the guards in the lines and at the advanced poſts, diſcharged their muſquetry upon him: the gun and mortar-boats came over at the ſame time, and poured in a briſk ſalute of ſhells and ſhot for above two hours;—ſome few killed and wounded upon the occaſion.

The frigates and ſhipping within the Boom at *New-Mole*, were this morning ſcuttled. The enemy are covering the roofs of the junk ſhips with bags, reſembling our ſand-bags.

12th. This morning, we perceived a great part of the palliſadoes burnt down, ſufficient to admit eight men abreaſt. From this circumſtance, we imagine they will not be long before they make the aſſault. From the iſthmus and forts they keep a conſtant fire, and this morning, as I came off *Landport Guard*, croſſing the *Eſplanade*, I obſerved a ſoldier before me, lying on the ground, and his head ſomewhat raiſed; I ran to him, imagining the man had life, and lifted him up, when ſuch a ſight was diſplayed to my view, that I think I ſhall never forget: a twenty-ſix pound ball had gone through his body, and his entrails as they hung out from the oriſice, were of a moſt diſagreeable reſemblance. The ſhot from the enemy was dropping on every ſide, and as I found his life was gone, I left him on the ſame ſpot, and made the beſt of my way to the ſouthward. A party of men buried him ſoon afterwards. The floating batteries at the *Orange Grove* have been taking in ſtores, &c. yeſterday and to-day. The other two alſo arrived there after a tedious paſſage from *Algaziras*.

Several boats have been brought out of the rivers to the *Orange Grove*; ſome of them ſeem to

to have a kind of cover, which we ſuppoſe is to ſhelter them from our muſquetry, when they come near the ſhore. The wind being weſterly, we ſhall expect the junk ſhips to embrace this opportunity. The enemy have erected ſtands or booths around the ſhore, lined with crimſon or ſcarlet, where the nobles and grandees will take their ſeats. 1782 Sept. 12th.

A report is juſt circulated, that a fleet is obſerved in the Gut; we hope it is the *Britiſh* coming to our relief; every one ſeems impatient to diſcover their colours: a gentlemen who has been taking a view ſays they are *French* and *Spaniſh* men of war; if ſo, our fate is inevitable.

The fleet are now diſtinguiſhable by the naked eye; they are ſhips of force, under *French* and *Spaniſh* colours ſtanding for the Bay. The garriſon are greatly agitated and diſappointed in their expectations. Will you believe me, brother, there are forty-four ſail of the line, excluſive of the nine already on the ſtation, who are now anchoring between *Algaziras* and the *Orange Grove*. If we can withſtand this force, we may bid defiance to all the world. There are ten admirals flags in the fleet.

This afternoon the gun and mortar-boats came daringly on, as much as to ſay, "*Ye dogs ſurrender*;" but luckily a ſhot ſtruck one of them, when ſhe diſappeared; the reſt ſoon afterwards retired. Major *Lewis*, of the Royal Artillery, was wounded this day.

A reinforcement is ordered to *Queen's Lines*, and to the different picquets, nine of which are to take poſt in town.

That

1782 Sept. 12th. That our enemies may be defeated, is the ſincere and hearty wiſh of

Your loving Brother.

LETTER XXXVII.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

1782 Sept. 13th. TO arm! to arms! is all the cry. The enemy's floating batteries have weighed anchor, and are now under ſail with a fine breeze at N. W. Their colours wanton in the wind, with gaudy decorations for the battle, while thouſands of ſpectators from yon glittering ſhore impatient wait to triumph in their ſucceſs. They have now tacked with their heads towards the garriſon, and what is remarkable, they work them without a man being expoſed or ſeen.

Half paſt nine o'Clock.

The floating batteries have juſt brought to, between the *Old-Mole-Head* and *South Baſtion*, within eight hundred yards of the walls—a very bold manœuvre.—Adieu! Victory or death will crown our cauſe. The garriſon and floatantees are engaged—the ignivomous appearance of the Bay and Rock, cannot be deſcribed by words.

Half

Half paſt Eleven at Night. 1782 Sep. 13.

Tired and fatigued, I ſit down to let you know, that the conflict is over, after a ſtubborn and well-fought battle, by which the enemy's ſhips are on fire. When they came on at nine o'clock this morning, they proceeded in admirable order, ſucceſſively to their different ſtations, and as they moored began to fire with the utmoſt vivacity. The cannonade on both ſides ſoon became truly tremendous, the land batteries co-operating with the junk ſhips to render the attack more formidable, poured into the garriſon prodigious diſcharges, which the artillery in their enthuſiaſm diſregarded, and particularly directed the ordnance on theſe wonderful ſhips of deſtruction. Our aſtoniſhment was raiſed to the higheſt pitch, on beholding our heavieſt ſhot rebound from their ſides, and an unuſual anxiety ſeemed to poſſeſs the mind of all ranks, when a thirteen inch ſhell, which dropped on the roof of the Admiral's ſhip, reſiſted penetration! About twelve o'clock the batteries were ſupplied with *red hot ſhot*, the exertions of the men employed at the guns, became more animated, and the fire was maintained with unabating firmneſs. The caſualties of war on moſt of the batteries, evinced the ſtrength of the oppoſition; the enemy continuing the fire in good line, and powerfully ſupported from the iſthmus in a flanking direction. Near four hundred pieces of cannon being engaged for ſeveral hours, the ſuperiority on either ſide was doubtful, until towards the evening, when the flag ſhip was obſerved to ſmoke conſiderably,

1782 bly, and the enemy's ſea fire rather ſlacken.
Sep. 13 Confuſion ſoon after was apparent on board the *Spaniſh* ſhips. Our cannonade became more terrible as our ſpirits revived with the proſpect of ſucceſs, from the hope of the hot ſhot bringing the action to a ſpeedy deciſion. The further exertions neceſſary to ſubdue theſe aſtoniſhing machines were truly arduous, and required fortitude and perſeverance to effect. The ſmoke from the flag ſhip continued to encreaſe, and about ſeven o'clock we obſerved the ſecond ſhip in command, in a ſimilar condition. The fire was then redoubled on the remaining eight, and as the night began to cloſe, we obſerved with pleaſure the ſcintilation of the balls, as they flew from our cannon. The ſouthermoſt ſhips ſhortly after made ſignals of diſtreſs—an indiſtinct clamour, with piercing ſhrieks, was heard during the little intervals of ceſſation of the cannonade. The *Spaniſh* fleet detached their boats to afford aſſiſtance to the two ſhips on fire, ſeveral being ſeen along-ſide by the flaſh of the ordnance—from their ſituation, and the heavy and well directed fire of our artillery, they muſt have ſhared abundantly in the general havock. Having gained an advantage over the enemy, and the men at the guns being almoſt worn out by fatigue and the labour of the ſtubborn action, the Governor ordered a part to be relieved by a detachment of one hundred men from the Marine Brigade, under the command of Lieutenant *Trentham* of the navy, leaving officers and non-commiſſioned officers at the different batteries, to direct the ſeamen in the mode of firing the hot ſhot.

If

If you could have peeped over the Rock and viewed our ſeveral employs, you could not have forbore ſmiling; thoſe ſtationed to work the guns, from the exceſſive heat of the day, and the dirt from the gun-powder, reſembled *Ethiopians*. The ſons of *Vulcan* were buſy at the forges, whilſt others were allotted to carry the blazing balls on an iron inſtrument made for that purpoſe, but as theſe did not furniſh ſufficient for the vaſt ſupply required at the batteries, wheel-barrows were procured, lined with wet ſand, and half a dozen thirty-two pound balls thrown into each. The fatigue attending the conveyance of ſhot to the cannon, was very great, from the heat which iſſued from ſuch large bodies of hot iron, together with wheeling the barrows up the aſcent to the line wall. 1782 Sep. 13

What with the arduouſneſs of the work—the warmth of the weather—the ſcorching heat of furnaces, forges, and piles of blazing balls, beſides the clouds of ſmoke from the ordnance, an univerſal thirſt prevailed, and a drink of water (which was all the allowance for the day) could ſcarcely be procured. It is with pleaſure I inform you, that an officer* who commanded a battery, obſerving the men almoſt exhauſted with drought, and feeling for their ſituation, took the water key from the poſt, proceeded to the fountain, and returned unhurt with a refreſhing ſupply, through the enemy's interſecant fire.

During the engagement, we had the inconſolable loſs of Captain *Reeves* of the Royal Artillery,

* Lieutenant Galpin, 72d regiment.

1782 tillery, killed——Captains *Grove*,—*Seward*—
Sep. 13 Lieutenant *Godfrey*, of ditto, Lieutenant *Whetham*, 58th, and Captain *Alexander M'Kenzie* of 73d regiments, wounded, beſide ſeveral non-commiſſion officers and men, killed and wounded.

14th. *One o'Clock in the Morning.*

The floating batteries have ceaſed firing, and and one of them has broke out in flames from ſtem to ſtern; ſeveral others evince the efficacy of the hot ſhot. The artilley continue to direct the fire on ſuch as do not outwardly ſmoke, which they are enabled to do with the utmoſt preciſion, by the light thrown on the water by the flames. An officer and eleven men floated in upon a piece of timber, being part of a floating caſtle, deſtroyed by a ſhell from the garriſon, as ſhe was ſteering to co-operate with the battering ſhips. Brigadier *Curtis*, with a detachment of ſeamen, has manned our gun-boats, and drawn them up to flank the enemy, and prevent them from endeavouring to remove ſuch of the ſhips as are not on fire.

Day Break.

Our Bay appears a ſcene of horror and conflagration, the foe are bewailing their perilous ſituation, whilſt our gun-boats are buſily employed in ſaving the unhappy victims from ſurrounding flames and threatening death, although the enemy from their land batteries inhumanly diſcharged their ordnance upon our tars

tars to prevent their affording them relief. 1782
But never was bravery and humanity more Sep. 14
conſpicuous, for notwithſtanding the imminent danger to be apprehended from ſo daring an enterprize, yet the *Britiſh* boats generouſly ſteered to theſe flaming devourers, and dragged the ſufferers from their deſperate ſtate.

Two of the enemy's boats which attempted to eſcape, were purſued by Brigadier *Curtis*, but only one was captured.—She ſurrendered on receiving a round of grape, which covered the boat and muſt have done miſchief.

Six o'Clock.

One ſhip has this moment exploded, in the midſt of our boats, who are humanely relieving a diſtreſſed enemy. The exploſion was grand and terrible—the wreck ſpread to a vaſt extent. and the concuſſion broke ſeveral panes of glaſs on ſhore. The greateſt uneaſineſs is felt for the ſafety of Brigadier *Curtis*, and the boats with him.—The whole are enveloped in a cloud of ſmoke. Another of the floating batteries has exploded with a more tremendous noiſe than the firſt.

To hear the lamentation of the crews,
The groans, the cries, that through the flames reſound,
Imploring our aſſiſtance from the danger
Of fire and water—ready to devour:
Words are too weak to give a juſt deſcription!
One of their ſhips blew up with dreadful noiſe,
While *Curtis* grappled to her ſcorching ſides,
The blazing beams, the maſts, the yards and carriages
In the exploſion ſcatter'd in the air,
And cover'd o'er the ſea with ſmoaking wreck.

Seven

1782
Sep. 14 *Seven o'Clock.*

Our anxiety for the Brigadier and men has ceaſed—he this moment landed at the *New Mole*, with a body of priſoners taken in the battering ſhips. One of our gun-boats was ſunk by the exploſion of the ſecond ſhip, and a hole was forced through the bottom of the Brigadier's boat, by which his Coxſwain was killed and another man wounded. The ſeamen were under the neceſſity of leaving numbers to their burning fate, who, terrified at their deſperate condition, rent the air with their ſhrieks, on perceiving the *Britiſh* boats make to ſhore.

The deſcription the *Spaniſh* priſoners give of the dreadful ſituation of their countrymen, left on board the junkers, with what they ſuffered, is unparalelled, I believe, in the annals of the ſad effects of war. The boat captured by the Brigadier, had one man killed and ſeveral wounded by the round of grape, which compelled her to ſtrike.

A remarkable inſtance of providence I cannot help mentioning :—A young boy on board one of the floating batteries, (which was almoſt in an entire blaze,) obſerving our boats making for ſhore, got upon the head, wept and cried, and in the *Spaniſh* tongue called for help ; his entreaties prevailed, and one of our boats, notwithſtanding the immenſe danger which threatened, rowed towards him, which he perceiving, jumped into the ſea, and at that very inſtant the ſhip exploded, with the greateſt part of the hands on board. The boat ſoon after took the boy up.

Eight

Eight o'Clock. 1782
Sep. 14

Captain *Curtis* has landed at *New Mole* about four hundred priſoners, including officers; ſome of them miſerably wounded and ſcorched. As the *Spaniſh* officers came paſt a furnace at the *New Mole*, in which there was about one hundred red hot balls, and ſome of them melted with the exceſſive heat, they ſhrugged their ſhoulders, and gave a piteous groan at what their eyes beheld.

Our ſeamen are bringing the trophies of victory on ſhore, one has juſt landed with the royal ſtandard of *Spain* which was intended by the foe to be hoiſted on theſe battlements. The hills and heights were covered with ſpectators, when the tars began their proceſſion, inceſſant ſhouts and repeated acclamations continued from the *Mole* to the *South Parade*, where the Governor and principal officers were congratulating each other on the occaſion, to whom they carried the colours, which ſenſibly pleaſed our gallant Chief, who joined the crowd in three cheers, and preſented the tars with ſome gold as a reward.

Each heart and ſoul's enflam'd with higheſt pleaſure,
To view *Iberia's* enſigns in our hands;
While every *Briton* crouds around the ſtandard,
To prize the grand diſplay of glorious conqueſt.
Some ſmile—then view—careſs—admire—ſhake hands,
And, with a heart-felt zeal, recount the battle:
King *George* and victory re-echoes round,
While *Andaluſia's* ſhore weeps at the ſound.

Nine

1782
Sep. 14 *Nine o'Clock.*

The priſoners are eſcorted to *Wind-mill Hill*, except the wounded, who are conducted to the Naval Hoſpital, where every care and tenderneſs will be ſhewn them: ſome of them really were moſt horrid ſpectacles; one in particular I cannot help mentioning, who was carried by four men on a hand-barrow—he had received a wound on his face, ſo that his noſe and eyes ſeemingly were ſeparated, hanging by a piece of ſkin, and the motion of the men that carried him occaſioned its flapping backwards and forwards, much reſembling a maſk. Though he muſt have felt the moſt ſenſible agony, yet he looked round him with great complacency, as he paſſed the numerous crouds of people.

Eleven o'Clock.

Of the ſix ſhips that were on fire three have exploded. One has almoſt burnt to the water's edge, and the other two nearly in the ſame ſituation. The enemy's land batteries maintain their cannonade upon the garriſon, ſpitting forth their venomed rage, while on the oppoſite ſhore confuſion and conſternation viſibly appears. The nobles and grandees who had aſſembled to view the capture of the place are withdrawing from the *Spaniſh* camp, to carry the direful news to *Philip*'s court; but what will be his ſurpriſe, when they announce that the *all-victorious impregnable floatantees* are loſt, and that flaming balls effected their ruin.

Our

One ſhip that was judged not to be on fire, unexpectedly burſt out into flames, and ſoon after blew up with great violence. The ſhock made the walls of the garriſon ſhake.—We hoped to have ſaved theſe laſt two ſhips as trophies of our glorious ſucceſs. 1782 Sep. 14

Our Governor, to pleaſe the ſoldiery and inhabitants, has directed the *Spaniſh* ſtandard to be reverſed and tied to a gun on the *South Parade*. It muſt be a galling vexation to our foes to behold their royal flag ſo ignobly diſplayed, and made the ſport of a multitude.

Four o'Clock in the Afternoon.

The laſt battery has juſt exploded off the *Old Mole Head*; our red hot ſhot had not fired her, and it being found impracticable to warp her in here, it was judged expedient to detach a boat to ſet her in flames, which accordingly Captain *Gibſon* effected without any injury from the land batteries.

Thus finiſhed an action of great magnitude, a defenſive victory terminated by ſeamen equally brave as humane.

The enemy during the day extinguiſhed the fire, by the aſſiſtance of engines, which ſupplied them with a vaſt quantity of water, but the continual and exceſſive diſcharge of red hot balls entirely fruſtrated their purpoſe, and they were conſtrained to deſiſt from the uſe of water, as it was found that the battering they had received opened the caulking, and let the water run between their decks, inſtead of the channels that were made in their ſides, to receive it, ſo that they were apprehenſive of

1782 Sept. their powder being damaged. The conſtruction of theſe machines was excellent; for the enemy being ſenſible that we ſhould fire red-hot balls (though they did not imagine ſo faſt, nor unleſs the gun was elevated) had judiciouſly contrived conveyances in the larboard ſides, for a continual circulation of water, which was furniſhed by working of the engines. From the niceſt calculation, the floating batteries received upwards of five thouſand red-hot balls, of twenty-four and thirty-two pounds weight. Three of the floating batteries burnt to the water's edge, ſix blew up from the hot ſhot, and one we ſet on fire by a *pitch ſhirt*.

The incloſed are copies of returns, wherein you will find the ſtrength of the garriſon, the names of the flotantees, and their ſtrength, with the number of priſoners ſaved by our boats; and ſince victory has crowned our arms, with ſatisfaction I conclude, being impatient for you to hear the account) and beg leave to ſubſcribe myſelf,

Your loving Brother.

Liſt of the Battering Ships, deſtroyed by the Red-Hot Shot, September 13th *and* 14th, 1782.

	Guns.	*Men*
Paſtora, *Admiral Don Morena* - -	28	700
Talla Piedra, *Prince of Naſſau* - -	28	700
St. Franciſco de Paula, 1ſt. *Don Langara*	26	700
Roſario, *Don Franciſco Munoz* - -	26	700
St. Chriſtoval, *Don Frederico Gravina*	18	600

St. Franciſco

	Guns.	Men	1782
St. Francisco de Paula 2d. *D. Pablola Cosa*	9	366	Sept.
Sta. Ana, *Don Joseph Angeler* - -	10	350	
St. Juan, *Don Francisco Guicochea* -	10	400	
Principe Carlos, *Don Joseph Topete*, -	11	400	
Declores, *Don Antonio Bassorto* - -	6	280	
Total -	172	5196	

N. B. These guns were mounted on the larboard side, exclusive of the number on the starboard side.

Prisoners taken by Captain Curtis, *from the Battering Ships.*

Sea Officers — —	3
Land Officers — —	3
Cadets — — —	2
Chaplains — — —	3
Surgeon — — —	1
Serjeants, Corporals, & Privates,	216
Artillerists, Land 2, Sea 5, —	7
Marines — — —	30
Seamen — — —	81
French Soldiers — —	11
Total —	357

Strength of the Garrison, Rank and File, 13th of September*, 1782.

Royal Artillery — —	494
12th — — —	458

* Including Corporals and Private Men.

1782	39th	—	—	—	452
Sept.	56th	—	—	—	457
	58th	—	—	—	447
	72d	—	—	—	793
	73d	—	—	—	778
	97th	—	—	—	639
	Hardenberg's		—	—	344
	Reden's	—	—	—	337
	La Mott's	—	—	—	348
	Artificer Company			—	84
	Corſicans		—	—	72
		Total	—		5703

LETTER XXXVIII.

15th. *Gibraltar.*

DEAR BROTHER,

YESTERDAY evening the enemy marched a conſiderable body of troops from their camp to the *Spaniſh* lines, prior to which the combined fleet made ſignal for ſailing, and unmoored, by which the garriſon were in expectation of an attack during the night; but the *Dons* did not renew the ſport. The combined fleet remain at anchor in the Bay, with foretop-ſails looſe. The land batteries continue the cannonade. Lieutenant *M'Namara*, of the 72d regiment, and a few ſoldiers of different

ferent regiments, were wounded by the fire. 1782
We ſent a flag of truce to the enemy, with Sept.
a ſtatement for the *Duc de Crillon*, of the pri- 15th.
ſoners ſaved by the *Britiſh* gun-boats, yeſter-
day morning.

From the account received by the priſoners, it appears, that the floating batteries were provided with eight days proviſion of all kinds, with abundance of wine and brandy. The ammunition for each, was not complete on their ſailing, but the ſupply deficient was to have been forwarded after battering the Rock for twenty-four hours, provided the garriſon did not ſurrender. The ſhip mounting 90 guns, had only 3000 rounds on board; the ſingle tier ſhip had no guns in reſerve on the ſtarboard ſide; all the two tier had about twelve mounted on the ſtarboard, and were well ſupplied with powder, ball, and caſed grape ſhot. The ſmaller veſſels drew about 19, the larger 25 feet water.

This morning, previous to the attack, an aid-de-camp to the *Duc de Crillion*, was ſent on board each veſſel, who after examining her condition, repreſented to the crew the glorious undertaking they were about to launch into, and promiſing in the King's name, the higheſt reward for their bravery. Each ſoldier and ſailor was to be exempt from all further ſervice, to have a gratuity of fifty dollars and full pay for the remainder of his life. The widows and children of the killed, were to enjoy the ſame benefit.

The combined fleet ſtill continue at anchor, 18t
and the enemy's batteries on the land ſide cannot forget their uſual employ. This afternoon,
the

1872 Sept. the grenadier company of the thirty-ninth regiment, escorted the body of a deceased *Spanish* captain (who died of the wounds he received on the thirteenth) to the place of interment, and fired three vollies over the grave. Yesterday we received a flag of truce from *Spain*.

20th. The enemy are quiet in the Bay, and their boats for landing troops still remain at the *Orange Grove*; several men wounded by the land fire. Ten gun-boats fired about one hundred rounds on the Rock this morning.

23d. Wind W. Arrived a cutter at *Algaziras*; several of the *Spanish* officers have been permitted to return to *Spain*.

29th. Very hot fire on both sides; a gun was dismounted this forenoon in the *Spanish* sixty-four gun battery, by a shot from the garrison. Our loss this day is, one man killed and nine wounded. Major *Horsfall*, of the 72d regiment, received a wound by the explosion of a shell. Yesterday a criminal was executed at the usual place for a burglary.—The *Spanish* army at noon were drawn up in a line for near two hours, and covered ground to the extent of four miles.

30th. Wind W. The *Spanish* towers this morning, displayed several colours, when the garrison attentively watched the Gut, expecting the arrival of our fleet, but to our great regret, only some neutrals appeared. Received a flag of truce from the *Orange Grove*.

Oct. 1. The enemy's gun and mortar boats came over, and fired their usual quantity of shot and shells, and then retired. Three shells fell in the Naval Hospital, but did no injury. The

The

The garriſon played very ſmartly upon them. 1782
A *Carſican* came over in the night from *Algazi-* Oct. 1.
ras, in a boat.

A frigate came over from the oppoſite ſide 4th.
this morning, under a flag of truce, and lay oppoſite the *Old-Mole-Head*, upon which a boat was detached to receive her. The particulars are not known. The enemy continue their cannonade.

A flag of truce from the enemy. Twelve 6th.
ſettees arrived from the eaſt at *Algaziras*.

Two *Spaniſh* launches, under a white flag, 8th.
came over for the purpoſe of taking up an anchor left by the frigate off the *New-Mole-Head* on the 4th inſtant, the Governor having given permiſſion for the ſame. The combined fleet have not made any ſignal to ſail, but remain ſpectators of the land cannonade, which is maintained on both ſides. All the *Spaniſh* priſoners are gone to *Spain*, except fifty-nine, who have inliſted into the *Britiſh* ſervice.

This afternoon, a body of troops embarked 10th.
from the *Orange Grove* on board the men of war, from which we conjecture they are tired of the expedition, and are going to remove to ſome more ſucceſsful part. Several ſignals on the tower at *Cabritta*.

Laſt night, wind N. W. A ſtrong breeze 11th.
ſprung up, drove ſeveral of the enemy's line of battle ſhips from their moorings, which occaſioned a general confuſion among the combined fleet; at day-break this morning, we diſcovered one nearly under the *King's Baſtion*, and ſeveral others within cannon ſhot. The *King's Baſtion* began a cannonade upon her, when ſhe finding it impoſſible to bear off, ſtruck

1782 Octob. 11th. ſtruck her colours, and ran aſhore off *Ragged-ſtaff*, where Captain *Curtis* went, and took poſſeſſion of her, and brought the crew to land. She proves to be the *San Miquel*, of 70 guns, and ſix hundred and fifty men, commanded by Brigadier *Don Juan Morena*. The others, with ſome damage and difficulty, got anchorage on the oppoſite ſide. The priſoners give an account that our fleet is off the coaſt, and that the troops which embarked yeſterday, were a reinforcement to the different ſhips, as they lay upon a ſpring cable, determined to obſtruct the entrance of the *Britiſh* ſquadron. We hope the ſtorm has not been prejudicial to our fleet, as they were ſo near the coaſt, for our fate will be determined, if a relief for the place ſhould be obſtructed. Many are of opinion, that had the ſtorm continued with the ſame violence for an hour longer, we ſhould have been in poſſeſſion of almoſt one half of their fleet.

The tower at *Cabritta*, has ſpread the ſignal alarm, but the combined fleet have not ſhewn any inclination to go out; three of the enemy's ſhips we fired at this morning, have ſtruck their topmaſts. Our batteries have been firing ſhells theſe three hours, upon a ſhip of the line at anchor on this ſide *Fort Negro*, prevented from removing from her anchorage (where neceſſity had compelled her to moor) on account of the violent breeze; we could not obſerve to have done any damage to her.

Wind W. The *Latona* frigate arrived this evening in *Roſia Bay*, with diſpatches for the Governor, and gives an account that our fleet conſiſts of thirty-four ſail of the line, and a reinforce-

reinforcement of two regiments for the garriſon. The enemy did not attempt to prevent her entrance. 1782. October 12th.

The *Britiſh* fleet, under the command of Lord *Howe*, paſſed to the eaſtward, where they are now lying too. It is ſuppoſed this experienced Admiral chooſes to have ſea-room, rather than run the hazard of the *Spaniſh* fire-ſhips, which they have in readineſs to run in. Came in the *Panther* of ſixty-four guns, laden with powder. Several ſtore-ſhips came in during the night.

The enemy's fleet ſtill occupy the oppoſite ſide; ſeven of their ſhips are repairing the damages they received in the late ſtorm.

GARRISON ORDERS.

The Governor is extremely happy to communicate to the garriſon, the following inſtructions he has juſt received from England.

Extract from the Earl of Shelburne, *principal Secretary of State.*

ST. JAMES'S, 10*th July*, 1782.

" *I AM honoured with his Majeſty's com-*
" *mands, to aſſure you, that not any encouragement*
" *ſhall be wanting to the brave officers and ſoldiers*
" *under your command. His royal approbation of*
" *the paſt, will no doubt be a powerful incentive to*
" *further exertions; and I have the King's autho-*
" *rity to aſſure you, that every diſtinguiſhed mark of*
" emulation

1782 " emulation *and* gallantry, *which ſhall be per-*
Octob. " *formed in the courſe of the ſiege by any, even of*
12th. " *the loweſt rank, ſhall meet with ample reward*
" *from his gracious protection and favour.*

" *Theſe, his Majeſty's intentions, you will com-*
" *municate in the moſt public manner, to every*
" *part of your garriſon, that they may be perfectly*
" *ſatisfied, that their Royal Maſter feels for the*
" *difficulties they are under, admires their glorious*
" *reſiſtance, and will be happy to reward their*
" *merit.*"

13th. Lord *Howe*'s ſquadron are ſtill to the eaſtward, within ſight of the garriſon, and the combined fleet at anchor at *Algaziras*. The ſhipping that were damaged in the ſtorm are not yet repaired. The guns and ſtores of the *San Miquel* have been taken out, to make her float.

This forenoon a frigate came round *Europa Point*, with a red flag upon her fore-top-maſt head, and fired a gun to windward, as a ſignal of defiance; upon which the combined fleet got under weigh, and went out, conſiſting of forty-five ſail of the line. The garriſon were greatly delighted; and thoſe whoſe duty did not confine them to one place, repaired to the heights and look-outs to view the engagement, but the two fleets in a ſhort time were out of ſight. Reports were then circulated, that the diſcharge of cannon was heard, and others, that the flaſh of guns were ſeen. One of the enemy's ſhips, that came near the Rock, was fired

fired at by the garriſon and *Panther*, but did not receive any material damage. The *Panther* failed to the eaſtward. Captain *Curtis* and the Governor's aid-de-camp, are on board her. Lieutenant *Lumley*, of the Royal Artillery, and ſeveral men, wounded this day by the land fire. 1782 Octob.

Wind E. This forenoon we diſcovered the *Britiſh* fleet ſtanding from the eaſtward, in good order, having got the windward, and the combined fleet in full chace. An anxiety was diſcernable in each countenance, and every eminence was lined with ſpectators, who gazed with eager eyes on both fleets, expecting every minute the battle to begin. The gratification of their wiſhes could not be obtained, as Lord *Howe*'s ſquadron was too inferior to engage the enemy, while he could poſſibly avoid it. He therefore ſent in the men of war (who had the 25th and 59th regiments on board) and the tranſports with proviſion and ſtores, but as ſoon as theſe two regiments were received by the boats, the men of war immediately joined the ſquadron, and proceeded through the Gut in three diviſions, the enemy following them at about a league diſtance. A ſenſible uneaſineſs now prevailed for the ſafety of the *Britiſh* ſquadron; for although we had received a relief both of men and proviſions, yet the ſituation of Lord *Howe* engaged too much of our attention, to leave room to congratulate each other on the happineſs of receiving ſupplies; however, after both fleets were out of ſight, we began to turn our eyes to our own affairs, and to liſten to the adventures of our late arrived friends. They ſay 18th.

that

1782 Octob. that two of our tranſports fell in among the combined fleet, in the night, and were captured; but that to the eaſtward of the Rock the fleets had not ſhewn any inclination to come to action.

19th. The Bay on the other ſide is almoſt defenceleſs, and *Algaziras* that has of late been the grand rendezvous for ſhipping, has loſt all its glory. The land cannonade is kept up with great vivacity, but it appears to be a folly for the beſiegers ſtill to continue the ſiege. We ſhall fight like game cocks now; Sir *Charles Noels* ſucceeds Captain *Curtis* as Commodore on this ſtation. Our ſhipping that were ſcuttled in the *New Mole*, being got up, the ſeamen are returning again to their uſual employ, military evolutions being no longer neceſſary for them.

The *San Miquel* floated this day, and anchored at *New Mole*.

Nov. 4. The gun and mortar-boats viſited us, without effecting any conſiderable damage. Some regiments have marched out of the camp of St. *Roque*. It is expected that the hearty doſe we have given them, has greatly lowered their ambition, and conſtrained them to direct their attention to ſome other place. A criminal was executed this day. Yeſterday was wounded Lieutenant *John M'Kenzie*, of the 72d regiment.

The 25th and 59th regiments that arrived here the 18th of October, are put on the duty ſtrength, which will be a relief to the garriſon. The *San Miquel* is in *New Mole*, where the enemy's mortar-boats have endeavoured to damage her. Yeſterday they fired ſeveral rounds but without effect. Wind

Wind W. Arrrived a xebec at *Algaziras*, the enemy's ſhipping lay very quiet viewing our rattling batteries. It is amazing that the *Spaniards* are not tired of bombarding the place, as they cannot have any hope of taking it. 1782 Nov. 20th.

The gun and mortar-boats came over and fired at the *San Miquel*, ſeveral ſhells fell in the *New Mole* and about the *Mole Parade*. Some few wounded. 27th.

The enemy's fire-ſhips are gone into the rivers, but the boats for landing troops remain at the *Orange Grove*. The encampment on the right of *Fort Negro* has been ſtruck ſome time, and the troops marched away. In all probability they have given over the thought of another attack. The land fire is continued with great ſpirit, by which we have many men wounded. Yeſterday arrived the *Achilles* ordnance ſtore ſhip from *England*. Dec. 2.

The gun and mortar-boats came into the Bay and fired particularly about the *New Mole*, ſuppoſed to be intended for the *San Miquel*, it is a matter that vexes them to behold her in our poſſeſſion, and for this reaſon they are conſtantly endeavouring to deſtroy her. Came in a deſerter from the *Spaniſh* lines. 7th.

Wind S. E. A xebec and a galley ſtanding from the eaſtward, having come pretty near *Europa*, we diſcharged three ſhot at them, one went through the rigging of the xebec, but was not obſerved to do any other damage.

Wind W. Arrived a brig in nineteen days from *Deptford*. The enemy did not offer to interrupt her. Nothing material in the Bay.

This

1782 Dec. 14th. This day a flag of truce was ſent by the enemy from *Algaziras*, but the wind continuing to blow exceedingly freſh, and a great ſwell in the bay, we did not perceive her buſineſs until ſhe was returning. We then ſent out a boat, which waited in the Bay ſome hours, but no anſwer was made by the *Spaniards*.

15th. This morning we ſent the flag of truce out again, but no notice was taken of it at *Algaziras*, or *Orange Grove*; after waiting upwards of two hours in the Bay, it returned unanſwered to the *Mole-head*.

17th. This morning the *Spaniards* ſent over a flag of truce, which was immediately anſwered from garriſon. The buſineſs is not made public.

18th. About ten o'clock this forenoon, 27 gun and mortar-boats came over, and fired for near two hours, directed towards the *New-Mole*, ſuppoſed with an intention to deſtroy the *San Miquel*; a thirteen-inch ſhell dropped into her, and exploded between decks; killed four, and wounded eleven men, but did not do any material damage to the ſhip. Eight of the garriſon gun-boats ſallied out within half-gun ſhot of the enemy, and kept them off, while the ſouthward batteries covered them in advancing.

22d. This morning a *Spaniſh* flag of truce brought over upwards of one hundred women and children, taken on board a tranſport, with the baggage belonging to the 25th and 59th regiments. The women ſays, the *Spaniards* treated them with great humanity and attention.

25th. This afternoon the enemy's gun and mortar boats, arranged in two diviſions, began a cannonade and bombardment upon the garriſon; Sir

Sir *Charles Noels* immediately manned our gun boats, and headed them into the Bay, where a ſpirited fire was kept up for upwards of two hours. The batteries on the iſthmus and lines kept pouring in a liberal diſcharge at the ſame time. The enemy threw many ſhells and ſhot on ſhore. 1782 Dec.

On the ſea-ſide we are only now and then interrupted, but the land batteries keep conſtantly roaring. We in complaſance return the favour, nor are we any ways deficient in number. This year has finiſhed with glorious ſucceſs on our ſide, in gallantly repulſing our combined and determined enemies; and ſhould they think proper to pay another viſit, I hope our arms will prove equally victorious. May the new year be propitious, and eſtabliſh a a permanent tranquility, that we may partake of the bleſſings of Providence, from which we have been upwards of three years deprived. 31ſt.

I am, Dear Brother,

Your's &c.

END OF THE YEAR 1782.

LETTER XXXIX.

1783 *Gibraltar.*

Jan. 1. DEAR BROTHER,

THE new year has began, much the ſame as the laſt finiſhed: vollies of ſhot and ſhells hourly diſcharged from the *Spaniſh* works upon the ruins of the town, by which we have ſometimes a few killed and wounded. Lieutenant *Holloway*, of the Engineers, received a wound upon the *Hill Batteries*, this day.

The *Spaniards* have renewed their former vigilance in the Bay; their naval force has been diſtributed, ſome to *Cabritta-Point*, others to *Ceuta*, and a few cruizing to the eaſtward and weſtward. What hope of taking the Rock, can induce them to continue the cannonade and prevent ſuccours from arriving.

4th. This afternoon a ſquadron of gun-boats to the number of thirty-two, with a few mortar-boats, came over from *Algaziras*, and fired for about an hour and a half, chiefly directed to the *New Mole*.

Our gun-boats were quickly manned by the tars, and fired with great ſpirit and good effect, the land batteries co-operating with them. One of the *Spaniſh* gun-boats was ſunk by a ſhell from the garriſon, when the *Dons* conſidered a removal neceſſary.

9th. Wind W. This forenoon a ſignal was made on the tower at *Cabritta Point*, when two gallies went out from *Algaziras*. A ſail appeared under the *Barbary* ſhore; the gallies ſoon ſtretched

ſtretched acroſs, and fired two ſhots, when ſhe ſurrendered to the *Dons*; ſhe appeared but a ſmall ſettee. The gun and mortar boats viſited us, but happily no lives were loſt—two ſoldiers loſt their legs by their fire. 1783

Between five and ſix o'clock this morning, the *Spaniſh* gun and mortar-boats came over and fired, as uſual, towards the *New Mole*. Several of the ſhot and ſhells fell upon the red ſands, where the men were paraded for guard. The Governor to divert their attention from the danger, walked through the ranks, converſing with the ſoldiery, while the Town-Major formed the different guards, which are mounted by detachments from each regiment. A few accidents happened in the garriſon, but not one perſon killed. 10th.

This being the anniverſary of Her Majeſty's birth day, the royal ſtandard was hoiſted, and a *ſalvo* fired at the enemy's works, with ſhot. The *Spaniards* made a very quick and ſpirited return. All quiet in the Bay. 18th.

Wind E. Laſt night arrived a ſettee from *Tetuan*, with poultry the price of which is greatly enhanced. They bring word, that the court of *Spain* are greatly, diſſatisfied with the length and ill ſucceſs of the ſiege. This forenoon a ſoldier was hanged for theft, and died with little emotion. 25th.

The gun and mortar-boats continue their firing from the Bay. They diſcharged under a heavy cannonade from the garriſon, between two and three hundred rounds, and then retired.——Some ſoldiers at the ſouthward, wounded. 26th.

1783 Jan. 29 This morning the *Brilliant* frigate, hauled out of *New Mole*, and anchored in *Roſia Bay*.

This afternoon thirteen mortar and ſixteen gun-boats came over, and began an attack about five o'clock. Our gun-boats went into the Bay to meet them, and gave them a ſpirited reception, the *Brilliant* frigate, and garriſon co-operating. The enemy killed two men and wounded fourteen before they retreated. Second Lieutenant *Raffalio*, of the *Corſican* Company, was wounded. We fired ſome red hot ſhot from elevated guns, which reached the *Spaniſh* camp.

30th. Four gun-boats came over this morning, and fired ſix rounds of ſhot at the *Brilliant* frigate. The garriſon fired a few ſhells which burſt in the air, over the gun-boats, which made them quit their paſtime. The *Spaniards* have not ceaſed their land cannonade, which at beſt is but a waſteful expenditure of their ammunition, as the town being deſtroyed, that object can no longer excite their attention.

I am, dear Brother,

Your's, &c.

LETTER

LETTER XL.

Gibraltar.

DEAR BROTHER,

THIS morning we received (by a flag of truce) intelligence of the moſt joyful and enlivening nature, which for ſome time, belief appeared doubtful; but after a few hours ſuſpenſe, we had the happineſs of being in poſſeſſion of the particulars, brought by the *Spaniſh* flag boat. The *Duc de Crillon* has ſent his compliments to General *Elliott*, acquainting him that the different courts had agreed upon a ceſſation of hoſtilities, and that the preliminary articles of peace would ſhortly be ſigned. The garriſon, enraptured with the ſound, ſpread the harmonious tidings, and in the evening all firing ceaſed on our ſide, agreeable to an order ſent by his Excellency the Governor to the different poſts. The enemy's cannonade became ſilent in the afternoon.—During the night we fired a few light balls in the iſthmus, to diſcover the ſituation of the enemy. 1783 Feb. 3

I ſcarce know how to begin upon a ſubject ſo truly intereſting and captivating. Our ſituation is changed from noiſe and confuſion, to calm ſerenity. The atmoſphere that was continually diſturbed with flames and ſmoke, is now illumined with variegated brightneſs; the ſtars that have been ſo long eclipſed, now ſhine with their wonted ſplendor; and the beſpangled rays of *Aurora*, with reſplendent luſtre again adorn each hill and height, that for upwards of eighteen months has only been

1783 diſtinguiſhable by the flaſhing of pieces of ord-
Feb. 3. nance. Our ſudden change from war to peace, the tranquility that preſides over the battered Rock, and *Andaluſian* ſhore, ſo powerfully affects all ranks in the garriſon, that to give you the delineation, would be a taſk for an able writer. The power of oratory, the moſt perſuaſive eloquence, would fall infinitely ſhort in deſcribing our happineſs and amazement. Will you believe me in aſſerting, that every poſt laſt night appeared peculiarly ſolitary, by the ſilence which all around prevailed, and the hours of ſlumber ſeemed uneaſy, for want of that martial noiſe, to which we have been ſo long accuſtomed.

I ſhall now proceed to give you ſome account concerning the effect upon our late determined antagoniſts, who ſeem highly to participate in the bleſſings of peace.

They appeared in crowds this morning upon the iſthmus works, evincing every demonſtration of the moſt heart-felt and lively joy, ſending forth unfeigned and rapturous congratulations. The long wiſhed-for ſound of peace, re-echoes from ſhore to ſhore, from hill to hill, from rock to rock, and every tongue is filled with the bliſsful melody. The *Spaniſh* officers at noon came underneath our lines, bowing to the guards, aſſuring them that an amicable peace had actually taken place.

Our Governor has not made any reducement in the number of the guards, not knowing how far the ſtratagems of war might operate, but waits until the royal declaration arrives from *England*, when every teſtimonial will be made as a thankſgiving to our great Creator,

Creator, for the reſtoration of the invaluable and ineſtimable bleſſings of peace. 1783 Feb. 3

Arrived a flag of truce from *Orange Grove*; ſays that the articles of peace are ſigned.

Arrived a flag of truce with letters from *Duc de Crillon*, ſpecifying the orders received from *Madrid*, to withdraw the troops and cruizers. 5th.

Received another flag of truce with a bag of letters. This forenoon a veſſel belonging to Merchant *Lynch*, ſailed out of the *Mole*, and proceeded paſt *Cabritta* unmoleſted. The *Spaniards* are withdrawing their ſtores from the lines. 6th.

An aid-de-camp to the Governor, went out by land, and dined with a *Spaniſh* officer in the camp;—in the evening he returned. 8th.

Arrived the General *Howe* ordnance ſtore-ſhip, and three ſmall veſſels from *Portugal*;—they heard nothing of the peace. 9th.

A *Spaniſh* boat this morning came over from *Orange Grove*, with ſheep, fowls, and eggs. The Governor ordered them to ſell their goods immediately, and depart. 13th.

This day we received a parley from the lines, with a confirmation of the peace. 20th.

This day arrived Sir *Roger Curtis*, in the *Thetis* frigate, with the preliminary articles of peace, and a ribbon the order of the Bath, for his Excellency General *George Auguſtus Elliott*. March 10th.

I encloſe you the following Returns of killed, wounded, &c. which you may depend upon being correct; and I hope in a ſhort time perſonally to aſſure you, that

I am, Dear Brother,

Sincerely Your's.

RETURN

Of the Killed and Wounded in the undermentioned Regiments,

From the 12th of April, 1781,—the Day the Bombardment commenced, to the 3d of February, 1783.

Regiments	Killed.				Wounded.				Died of Wounds.				Recovered of wounds.			
	Officers	Serjeants	Drummers	Rank & File	Officers	Serjeants	Drummers	Rank & File	Officers	Serjeants	Drummers	Rank & File	Officers	Serjeants	Drummers	Rank & File
Roy. Arti.	2	1	0	44	8	4	1	126	0	0	0	7	8	4	1	119
12	1	3	1	13	3	4	7	109	0	0	0	9	3	4	7	100
25	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	8	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	7
39	1	3	1	15	4	5	1	71	1	1	0	5	3	4	1	66
56	0	2	1	16	4	3	0	72	0	1	0	1	4	2	0	64
58	1	1	0	12	2	3	3	73	0	0	0	4	2	3	3	69
59	0	0	0	2	0	0	1	18	0	0	0	4	0	0	1	14
72	0	2	0	35	3	15	1	178	0	2	0	18	3	13	1	160
73	0	0	0	28	6	7	1	125	0	1	0	17	6	6	1	108
97	0	0	0	7	0	4	2	51	0	0	1	6	0	4	1	45
Reden's	0	2	0	7	1	1	0	44	0	0	0	4	1	1	0	40
La Mott's	0	1	0	16	0	3	0	48	0	0	0	6	0	3	0	42
Sydow's	0	2	0	9	1	7	0	55	0	0	0	5	1	7	0	50
Artificers	0	1	0	6	3	3	0	26	0	0	0	0	3	3	0	26
MarineBri.	0	1	0	2	0	2	0	9	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	8
Corſicans.	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
Total	5	19	3	193	36	62	17	1013	1	6	1	95	35	56	16	918

RETURN

RETURN

Of the Enemy's firing againſt the Garriſon.

From their Land Batteries	Shot.	Shells.	Total.
1781, From 12th April, to 31ſt Dec.	100841	29296	130137
1782, From 1ſt Jan. to 31ſt Dec.	73792	38239	112031
1783, From 1ſt Jan. to 3d Feb.	1123	825	1947
Total Land Fire	175755	68360	244115
Fired from their Gun and Mortar Boats	6775	7498	14273
Total	182530	75858	258388

Expended by the Garriſon, from 12th September, 1779, to the 3d of February, 1783.

	Barrels.	lb.	oz.
Powder	7651	160	15
Shells		129,370	—
Shot		57,160	—
Grape		12,684	—
Carcaſſes		926	—
Light Balls		689	—
Total		200,829	—

GIBRALTAR,

GIBRALTAR, 23d *April*, 1783.

The Garriſon being drawn up, conformable to the Orders for this Day, General Elliott *addreſſed the Troops in the following Manner, previous to his being inveſted with the Order of the Bath.*

GENTLEMEN,

" I HAVE aſſembled you this day, in " order that the officers and ſoldiers may re- " ceive, in the moſt public manner, an au- " thentic declaration tranſmitted to me by the " Secretary of State, expreſſing the high ſenſe " his Majeſty entertains of your meritorious " conduct in the defence of this Garriſon.

" The King's ſatisfaction upon this event " was ſoon divulged to all the world, by his " moſt gracious Speech to both Houſes of Par- " liament.

" The Houſe of Lords and the Houſe " of Commons, not only made the ſuitable " profeſſions in their addreſs to the Throne, " but have ſeverally enjoined me to commu- " nicate their unanimous thanks by the fol- " lowing reſolutions.*

" No

* *Houſe of Lords*, 13*th Dec.* 1782.

" Reſolved, *Nemine Diſſentiente*, the Lords Spiritual and Temporal in Parliament aſſembled, That this Houſe doth highly approve of, and acknowledge the ſervices of the officers, ſoldiers, and ſailors, lately employed in the Defence of Gibraltar."

Houſe of Commons, 12*th Dec.* 1782.

" Reſolved, *Nemine Contradicente*, That the thanks of this Houſe be given to the officers, ſoldiers, and ſailors, lately employed in the Defence of Gibraltar."

"No army has ever been rewarded by "higher national honours, and it is well "known how great, univerſal, and ſponta- "neous were the rejoicings throughout the "kingdom upon the news of your ſucceſs:— "theſe muſt not only give you inexpreſſible "pleaſure, but afford matter of triumph to "your deareſt friends and lateſt poſterity. As "further proof how juſt your title is to ſuch "flattering diſtinction at home, reſt aſſured "from undoubted authority, that the nations "of Europe, and other parts are ſtruck with "admiration of your gallant behaviour, even "our late reſolute, and determined antago- "niſts, do not ſcruple to beſtow the commen- "dations due to ſuch valour and perſeve- "rance.

"I now moſt warmly congratulate you "on theſe united and brilliant teſtimonies of "approbation; amidſt ſuch numerous, ſuch "exalted tokens of applauſe, forgive me, "faithful companions, if I humbly crave your "acceptance of my grateful acknowledgments.

"I only preſume to aſk this favour, as "having been a canſtant witneſs of your ſub- "miſſion to the greateſt hardſhips—your "matchleſs ſpirit and exertions, and on all "occaſions your heroic contempt of every "danger."

Eſtimate

Eſtimate of the various Articles, and their Average prices, during the Blockade and Siege of Gibraltar, from 21ſt June 1779, to 3d February, 1783.

Exchange at 39d. the dollar, being the Average upon the whole.

	Gib. cur.			Eng. ſterl.		
	dls.	*rls.*	*qs.*	*l.*	*s.*	*d.*
Veal, per pound	1	4	0	0	4	10h
A calve's head and feet	10	4	0	1	14	1h
A calve's pluck	4	4	0	0	14	7h
Mutton, per pound	1	4	0	0	4	10h
A ſheep's* 5th and hind q. ſold for	48	0	0	7	10	0
A ſheep's head and feet	4	4	0	0	14	7h
A ſheep's pluck	2	4	0	0	8	1h
Beef, per pound	1	4	0	0	4	10h
A bullock's head without a tongue	7	4	0	1	3	4h
A bullock's tongue	2	4	0	0	8	1h
A bullock's liver, per lb.	0	3	0	0	1	3
Freſh tripe, per lb.	1	0	0	0	3	3
Salt beef, per lb.	0	3	0	0	1	3
Salt pork, per lb.	0	3	0	0	1	3
Freſh pork, per lb.	1	0	0	0	3	3
A hog's pluck	4	4	0	0	14	7h
Goat, per lb.	1	2	0	0	4	1
A goat's pluck	2	0	0	0	6	6
A goat's head	2	4	0	0	8	1h
A turky	15	0	0	2	8	9
A gooſe	9	0	0	1	10	4
A couple of ducks	6	6	0	1	1	11h
A pair of fowls	6	6	0	1	1	11h
A pair of pigeons	3	0	0	0	9	9
Flour, per lb.	0	3	0	0	1	3
Bread, per lb.	0	4	0	0	1	7h
Salt Butter, per lb.	1	4	0	0	4	10h
Cheeſe, per lb.	1	4	0	0	4	10h
Rice, per lb.	0	3	0	0	1	3
Loaf Sugar, per lb.	0	3	0	0	7	1
Tea, per lb.	14	0	0	2	5	6
Common Candles, per lb.	0	6	0	0	2	5
A hen's egg	0	1	8	0	0	7h
A pint of milk	0	3	0	0	1	3
Potatoes, per lb.	0	6	0	0	2	5
Onions, per lb.	0	6	0	0	2	5

* A fifth ſignifies the tail, which is as large as any one of the quarters.—This occaſions their being called Five-Quarter Sheep.—Their growth is but ſmall.

A SHORT HISTORY AND DESCRIPTION of GIBRALTAR.

THE firſt name by which this mountain was known was that of *Mons Calpe*, and it continued to be ſo called till the incurſions of the *Arabs* in the year 713. It is not my intention to explore the dark hiſtory of this famous Rock; it is buried in obſcurity, or involved in doubt. Hiſtorians ſay, that it was poſſeſſed by the *Scythians* at the firſt ſettlement of that country. When the all-conquering *Romans* reduced *Iberia*, this mountain afforded a temporary aſylum to the *Bœticans*; but their reſiſtance was vain, and a *Roman* ſettlement was made to the weſt of *Calpe*, which bore the name of *Julia Traducta*. The *Carthiginians* ſeized on all *Bœtica*, but it was recovered by *Lucius Licinius Lucullus*, and *Calpe* remained in the poſſeſſion of the *Romans* until they were ultimately driven out of all *Spain* by the *Weſtrogoths* in 568. A domeſtic quarrel introduced the *Arabs* into *Spain* in the year 713. The mountain then obtained the name of *Jibal Tarik*, or *Tarik's Mountain*, *Tarik* being the chief under whom the incurſion was made; this

this is declared to be the origin of the name, which by corruption of ſound and orthography, is now *Gibraltar*.

It has undergone no fewer than thirteen ſieges.

In 1310 *Alonzo Perez de Guzman* firſt took it from the *Infidels*, which ſo enraged them, that that they murdered their king, *Mahomet*.

The ſecond ſiege was in 1316, when *Iſmael*, king of *Grenada*, in vain attempted to retake it.

The third commenced in February 1332, under *Abamelique*, when the *Spaniards*, after enduring almoſt intolerable fatigue, and ſubſiſting for weeks on the leather of their ſhields, were ſtarved into a ſurrender in the middle of June.

The fourth ſiege was begun by *Don Alonza* XI. in the end of the ſame month, he having been within four days march of the place on its ſurrender. This inveſtment was attended with uncommon circumſtances of hardſhip, both to the beſieged and beſiegers: the latter were blocked up in the neck of *Gibraltar* by the king of *Grenada* and *Abamelique*, who marched with an army to the relief of the garriſon. At laſt, on the 20th of Auguſt a peace was concluded, and the ſiege was raiſed.

Don Alonza again ſet down before it in the ſummer, 1349, and during this, which was the fifth ſiege, and which continued for nine months, the garriſon was reduced to great ſtraits; but *Don Alonza* was carried off by the plague in March, 1350.

The Emperors of *Fez* neglecting their *Spaniſh* territories, *Juzal*, third king of *Grenada*, took

took it in 1410. This was the ſixth ſiege, but the next year the inhabitants drove out the conquerors. and put themſelves under the protection of *Muley Beuld*, Emperor of *Fez*.

Juzaf beſieged it in form the January following with a fleet and army, and the garriſon was ſtarved into a ſurrender.—This was the ſeventh ſiege.

The eighth ſiege was in 1438, when *Don Emique de Guzman* attacked it with a ſtrong force, but was defeated by the *Moors*, and drowned. His ſon, however, brought off the remains of his army.

In 1462, the ſon returned with greater force, and took the place, which ever ſince has remained in poſſeſſion of the chriſtians.—This was the ninth ſiege.

The tenth was in 1704, when it was torn from the *Spaniards* by the *Engliſh*. under the command of Sir *George Rooke*.*

The *Spaniards* were ſorely hurt with the loſs of this moſt important ſtation. They knew its conſequence, and, added to the value conferred by its ſtrength and ſituation, the circumſtance

* The Prince of *Heſſe* had landed on the iſthmus with eighteen hundred men, but the ſteepneſs of the Rock made an attack on that ſide impracticable. The *Britiſh* fleet fired upwards of 15000 ſhots, without effecting a ſurrender, when a body of ſailors, on the 4th of Auguſt, in a merry-making excurſion, happened to row cloſe under the *New Mole* in their boats, (the cannon of which muſt have ſunk them had any been fired,) were encouraged to attempt landing; and being ſucceſsful, they mounted the *Mole*, and hoiſted a red jacket as a ſignal of poſſeſſion. Boats, with troops and ſeamen, were immediately detached to ſhore, and in a ſhort time they got poſſeſſion of the eight gun battery in the *Line Wall*, which cauſed the town to ſurrender.

cumſtance of giving to an ancient enemy ſuch a footing in the kingdom, was a mortification which the proud ſpirit of the *Spaniards* could not bear. An expedition was immediately formed, and the eleventh ſiege commenced under the *Marquis de Villadarius*. The ſiege laſted four months; and finding all their efforts, though vigorous, were vain, it was abandoned in 1705.

Great Britain, fully ſenſible of its importance, hath maintained it at an immenſe coſt, and hath taken ſuch advantage of its natural powers in diſpoſing the works that have been raiſed, as to make it indubitable the ſtrongeſt fortification in the univerſe. *Spain* has obſerved this conduct with unavailing regret. The recovery of this poſt has at one time given them ſubject for declaring a war, and at another time has been claimed as the price of peace. They ceded it at the peace of *Utrecht* without grace, for they ſtipulated for a right of preexemption in caſe *Great Britain* ſhould diſpoſe of it. Many negociations were opened; many offers of purchaſe, and of places to be exchanged for it; but all were fruitleſs. The *Engliſh* nation were juſtly jealous of the treaſure, and if at one time miniſters were diſpoſed or were cajoled to ſquander it by negociation, the bargain was prevented by the vigilance of parliament, and the ſpirit of the people. It was made the ſubject of warm diſcuſſion in the Lower Houſe in the year 1727. Theſe ſecret manœuvres proving abortive, the *Spaniards* ſat down before *Gibraltar* on the 13th of February, in 1727; but this, which was the 12th ſiege, and under the conduct of the Marquis

Marquis de la *Torras*, was like the former, ſpirited and fruitleſs.

The thirteenth ſiege was begun in 1779, and continued inceſſantly until 1783, a period of almoſt four years. On the firſt inveſtment, Admiral *Don Barcello* blocked the port by ſea, and General *Don Juan de Mendoza*, cut off the communication by land. A ſhort time after, he was recalled for particular reaſons, and General *Alvery* appointed, who governed until the *Duc de Crillion* arrived from *Minorca* (after its capture) when he was inveſted with the command, and continued in it till the concluſion of the ſiege. The garriſon have, by their perſeverance, preſented to Europe a picture of the moſt gallant defence. They have reſiſted the efforts of the moſt numerous and beſt equipped band of beſiegers that, perhaps, ever beſet any fortreſs. The *Spaniards* have bent every endeavour to this ſingle object. They have ſtarved their marine, and neglected their power in every other quarter of the globe, that they might employ all their reſources, and direct all their attention to this great end. Their works have been immenſe, their induſtry indefatigable. They have endeavoured to accompliſh its reduction by the conſtancy of their attack; by their numbers they have been able to make their operations inceſſant, that the garriſon might have no relaxation from fatigue, no opportunity for repoſe. All their ſtruggles, however, have been vain. The garriſon was annually relieved with proviſions, though the want of ſtore-houſes tended greatly to make it uneatable; and when they ruſhed on confident of victory, had the glory to gain

gain immortal renown, by repulſing ſo ſuperior a force, under the immediate eye of the principal perſonages, nobles, and grandees of *Spain*, who had aſſembled to view the capture of the important fortreſs.

MEMOIRS

MEMOIRS *of the* LIFE *and* MILITARY SERVICES *of* General Sir GEORGE AUGUSTUS ELIOTT.

SIR *George Auguſtus Eliott*, the brave and gallant defender of *Gibraltar*, is the ſon of the late Sir *Gilbert Eliott* of *Stobbs*, in *Roxburgh-ſhire*. The antient and honourable family of *Eliott* of *Stobbs*, as well as the colateral branch of *Eliott* of *Minto*, in the ſame county, and of *Eliott* of *Port Eliott*, in *Cornwall*, are originally from *Normandy*. Their anceſtor, Mr. *Aliott*, came over with *William* the Conqueror, and held a diſtinguiſhed rank in his army. There is a traditionary anecdote in the family relating to an honourable diſtinction in their coat of arms, which, as it correſponds with hiſtory bears the appearance of truth. When *William* ſet foot on the *Engliſh* land, he ſlipped and fell on the earth. He ſprang up again and exclaimed, that it was a happy omen—he had embraced the country of which he was to become Lord. Upon this *Aliot* drew his ſword, and ſwore by the honour of a ſoldier, that he would maintain, at the hazard of his blood, the right of his Lord to the ſovereignity of the earth which he had embraced. On the event of conqueſt, King *William* added to the arms of *Aliot*, which was a baton, or, on a field azure, and the arm and ſword, as a creſt, with the motto, *per ſaxa, per ignes, fortiter, et recte*. We mention this as a curious fact delivered down and recorded as a memorial of their antiquity.

Sir *Gilbert Eliott*. of *Stobbs*, had nine ſons and two daughters. The preſent Gen. *Eliott* is the youngeſt ſon, and he is now the only

ſurviving one. His eldeſt ſon, Sir *John Eliott*, left the title and eſtate to his ſon, the preſent Sir *Francis Eliott*, who is therefore nephew to the General.

Sir *George Auguſtus Eliott* was born about the year 1718, and received the firſt rudiments of his education under a private tutor retained at the family ſeat. At an early age he was ſent to the Univerſity of *Leyden*, where he made a rapid progreſs in claſſical learning, and ſpoke with elegance and fluency the *German* and *French* languages. Being deſigned for a military life, he was ſent from thence to the celebrated *Ecole Royale du genie militaire*, at *La Fere* in *Picardy*. This ſchool was rendered the moſt famous in *Europe* by means of the great *Vauban*, under whom it was conducted. It is now under the management and care of the Comte *d'Horroville*. Here it was that the foundation was laid of that knowledge of tactics in all its branches, and particularly in the arts of engineering and fortification, which has ſo greatly diſtinguiſhed this officer ſince. He compleated his military courſe on the continent by a tour, for the purpoſe of ſeeing in practice what he had been ſtudying in theory. *Pruſſia* was the model for diſcipline, and he continued for ſome time as a volunteer in that ſervice. Such were the ſteps taken by the young men of faſhion in that day to accompliſh themſelves for the ſervice of their country. Many of his cotemporaries were then firmly engaged, nobly abandoning the enjoyment of eaſe and luxury at home, for the opportunity of ſeeing actual ſervice.

Mr.

Mr. *Eliott* returned in the 17th year of his age, to his native country of *Scotland*, and was in the ſame year, 1735, introduced by his father, Sir *Gilbert*, to Lieut. Col. *Peers* of the 23d regiment of foot, or Royal *Welch* Fuzileers, then lying in *Edinburgh*. Sir *Gilbert* preſented him a youth anxious to bear arms for his King and country. He was accordingly entered a volunteer in that regiment, and continued for a twelve-month or more. At this time he gave a gromiſe of his future military talents, and ſhewed at leaſt that he was a ſoldier *au cœur*. From the 23d he went into the engineer corps at *Woolwich*, and made great progreſs in that ſtudy, until his uncle, Col. *Eliott*, brought him in as Adjutant of the ſecond troop of horſe grenadiers. In this ſituation he conducted himſelf with the moſt exemplary attention, and laid the foundation of that diſcipline which has rendered thoſe two troops the fineſt corps of heavy cavalry in *Europe*, the *Hanoverian* body guards, and the muſqueteers of *France* not excepted. With theſe troops he went upon ſervice to *Germany* in the war before laſt, and was with them in a variety of actions. At the battle of *Dettingen* he was wounded. In this corps he firſt bought the rank of Captain and Major, and afterwards purchaſed the Lieutenant Colonelcy from Col. *Brewarton*, who ſucceeded his uncle. On arriving at this rank he reſigned his commiſſion as an engineer, which he had enjoyed along with his other rank, and in which ſervice he had been actively employed very much to the ſervice of his country. He had received the inſtructions of the famous engineer *Bellidor*,

and made himſelf compleatly maſter of the ſcience of gunnery. Had he not diſintereſtedly reſigned his rank in the engineer department, he would now, by regular progreſſion, have been at the head of that corps. Soon after this he was appointed an Aid-de-camp to King *George* II. and was already diſtinguiſhed for his military ſkill and diſcipline. In the year 1759 he quitted the ſecond troop of horſe grenadier guards, being ſelected to raiſe, form, and diſcipline the firſt regiment of light horſe, called after him, *Eliott*'s. As ſoon as they were raiſed and formed, he was appointed to the command of the cavalry in the expedition on the coaſts of *France*, with the rank of Brigadier-General. After this he paſſed into *Germany*, where he was employed on the ſtaff, and greatly diſtinguiſhed himſelf in a variety of movements, while his regiment diſplayed a ſtrictneſs of diſcipline, activity, and enterprize, which gained them ſignal honour; and indeed they have been the pattern regiment, both in regard to diſcipline and appointment, to the many light dragoon troops that have, ſince that period, been raiſed in our ſervice. From *Germany* he was recalled for the purpoſe of being employed as ſecond in command in the memorable expedition againſt the *Havannah*. It was poſſible to find an officer in the ſunſhine of the court to whom, under the patronage of a Prince, the trappings of the chief command might be given; but an *Eliott* was wanting to act, as well as an *Albemarle* to ſhine, and for him they were forced to go to the duſty plains of *Germany*. The circumſtances of that conqueſt are well known. It ſeems as

if

if our brave veteran had always in his eye the gallant *Lewis de Velaſco*, who maintained his ſtation to the laſt extremity, and when his garriſon were flying from his ſide, or falling at his feet, diſdained to call for quarter, but fell glorioufly exerciſing his ſword upon his conquerors.

Our readers will pardon us for the recital of a ſhort anecdote, which occurred immediately after the reduction, as it ſhews, that in the very heat and outrages of war, the General was not unmindful of the rights of humanity. He was particularly eminent among the conquerors of the *Havannah*, for his diſintereſted procedure, and for checking the horrors of indiſcriminate plunder. To him, therefore, appeals were moſt frequently made. A Frenchman who had ſuffered greatly by the depredations of the ſoldiery, made application to him, and begged, in bad *Engliſh*, that he would interfere to have his property reſtored. The petitioner's wife, who was preſent, a woman of great ſpirit, was angry at the huſband for his interceſſion, and ſaid, *Comment pouvez-vous demander du grace a un homme qui vient vous depouiller? N'en eſperez pas.* The huſband perſiſting in his application, his wife grew more loud in the cenſure, and ſaid, *vous n'etes pas Francois!* The General who was buſy writing at the time, turned to the woman, and ſaid, ſmiling, *Madame ne vous, echauffez pas, ce que votre mari demande lui ſera accorde! Oh faut-il pour ſurcroit de malheur*, exclaimed the woman, *que le barbare parle le Francois.* The General was ſo very much pleaſed with the woman's ſpirit, that he not only procured them their property

property again, but alſo took pains to accommodate them in every reſpect. This has been through life the manly characteriſtic of the General. If he would not ſuffer his troops to extend for the ſake of plunder (the ravages of war) he never impoveriſhed them by unjuſt exactions. He never would conſent that his Quarter-Maſter's place ſhould be ſold, "not "only, ſays he, "becauſe I think it the re-"ward of an honeſt veteran ſoldier; but alſo, "becauſe I could not ſo directly exerciſe my "authority in his diſmiſſion, ſhould he behave "ill."

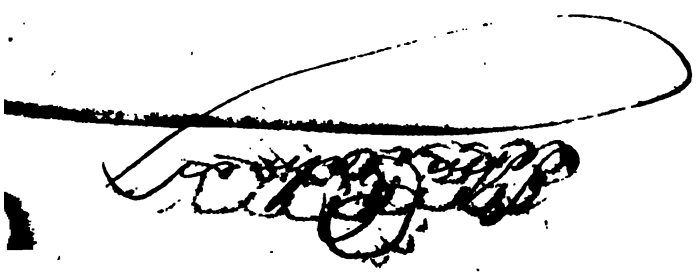
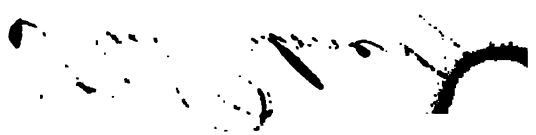
On the peace, his gallant regiment was reviewed by his Majeſty in *Hyde Park*, when they preſented to the King the ſtandards they had taken from the enemy. The King gratified with their high character, aſked General *Eliott*, what mark of his favour he could beſtow on his regiment equal to their merits. He anſwered, that his regiment would be proud if his Majeſty ſhould think, that, by their ſervices, they were entitled to the diſtinction of *Royals*. It was accordingly made a royal regiment, with this flattering title. *The 15th or King's Royal Regiment of Light Dragoons.* At the ſame time, the King expreſſed a deſire to confer a mark of his favour on the brave General; but he declared, that the honour and ſatisfaction of his Majeſty's approbation of his ſervices was his beſt reward.

During the peace he was not idle:—his great talents in the curious branches of the military arts, gave him ample employment; and in the year 1775, he was appointed to ſucceed General *A'Court* as Commander in Chief of the

the forces in *Ireland*. But he did not continue long in this ſtation; not even long enough to unpack all his trunks; for, finding that interferences were made by petty authority derogatory to his own, he reſiſted the practice with becoming ſpirit; and not chuſing to diſturb the government of the ſiſter kingdom, on a matter perſonal to himſelf, he ſolicited to be recalled, and accordingly was ſo, when he was appointed to the command of *Gibraltar*, in a fortunate hour for the ſafety of that important fortreſs. The ſyſtem of his life, as well as his education, peculiarly qualified him for this truſt. He is, perhaps, the moſt abſtemious man of the age. His food is vegetables, and his drink water. He neither indulges himſelf in animal food nor wine. He never ſleeps more than four hours at a time; ſo that he is up later and earlier than moſt other men. He has ſo inured himſelf to habits of hardineſs, that the things which are difficult and painful to other men, are to him his daily practice, and are rendered pleaſant by uſe. It could not be eaſy to ſtarve ſuch a man into a ſurrender, nor eaſy to ſurprize him. His wants are eaſily ſupplied, and his watchfulneſs beyond precedent. The example of the Commander in Chief in a beſieged garriſon, has a moſt perſuaſive efficacy in forming the manners of the ſoldiery. Like him, his brave followers came to regulate their lives by the moſt ſtrict rules of diſcipline before there aroſe a neceſſity for ſo doing; and ſevere exerciſe, with ſhort diet, became habitual to them by their own choice. The military ſyſtem of diſcipline which he introduced, and the preparations he made for his

his defence. were contrived with ſo much judgment, and executed with ſo much addreſs that he has been able, with a handful of men to preſerve his poſt againſt an attack, the conſtancy of which, even without the vigour, has been ſufficient to exhauſt any ſet of men. Collected within himſelf, he has in no inſtance deſtroyed, by premature attacks, the labour which would coſt the enemy time, patience, and expence to compleat; he has never ſpent his ammunition in uſeleſs parade, or in unimportant attacks. He has never relaxed from his diſcipline by the appearance of ſecurity, nor hazarded the lives of his garriſon by wild experiments. By a cool and temperate demeanour he maintained his ſtation for four years of conſtant inveſtment, in which all the powers of *Spain* were employed. All the eyes of *Europe* has been on his garriſon, and his conduct has juſtly exalted him to a moſt elevated place in the military annals of the preſent day.

The General married a ſiſter of the preſent Sir *Francis Drake*, and by her has had a ſon and a daughter. The ſon is now Lieut. Colonel of the 6th (or Inniſkilling) regiment of dragoons, and the daughter is married to Mr. *Fuller*, of *Bayly Park* in *Suſſex*.

His Majeſty was graciouſly pleaſed in addition to the order of the Bath, to create him a Baron of *England* by the title of Lord *Heathfield*, which he enjoyed but a ſhort time, being ordered at the late armament againſt *Spain* to proceed to *Gibraltar*, he died on his paſſage.

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